



250TH ANNIVERSARY

OF THE

FOUNDING OF TAUNTON

1639 — 1889









TAUNTON GREEN 100 YEARS AGO.

QUARTER MILLENNIAL
CELEBRATION
OF THE
CITY OF TAUNTON,
MASSACHUSETTS,
Tuesday and Wednesday, June 4 and 5,
1889.



TAUNTON, MASSACHUSETTS :
PUBLISHED BY THE CITY GOVERNMENT.
1889.

PRESS OF
CHARLES H. BUFFINGTON,
TAUNTON.

To the Honorable City Council of the City of Taunton:

The committee appointed to publish a History of the Celebration of the 250th Anniversary of the Founding of Taunton respectfully submit this volume as a result of their labors.

The initiatory proceedings relative to this celebration were commenced by the City Council in April, 1886, when a committee was appointed to confer with a delegation from the Old Colony Historical Society relative to deciding upon the year in which the celebration should take place. This committee reported in October, recommending that the year 1889 be selected, that being the 250th year from the founding of Taunton according to the most reliable information obtained by the committee. This recommendation was adopted and the following year an order was passed, appointing the 4th and 5th of June as the days on which the celebration should be held.

In January, 1888, an order was adopted authorizing His Honor the Mayor, on behalf of the City, to petition the Legislature for leave to expend the sum of \$5,000 in this celebration, which petition was granted and in February, 1889, an order was passed by the City Council appropriating that amount for the above purpose.

A full and exhaustive account of the proceedings during the celebration will be found in the following pages.

We desire to express our full appreciation of the valuable services rendered by the committee on the part of the Old Colony Historical Society, Hon. Wm. E. Fuller, James H. Dean, Esq., and Rev. S. Hopkins Emery in collecting and preparing the matter for publication.

RICHARD HENRY HALL, Mayor,	RIPLEY W. TOWNSEND,
EDWARD H. TEMPLE,	E. CLARENCE HOLT,
CHARLES S. ANTHONY,	ALDEN H. BLAKE,
EDWARD A. FAY.	

COMMITTEES APPOINTED ON BEHALF OF
THE CITY GOVERNMENT :

COMMITTEE 1886.

Mayor RICHARD HENRY HALL.

Aldermen.

DANIEL CAREY, HENRY W. COLBY.

President GEORGE H. RHODES.

Councilman JOHN H. ELDRIDGE.

COMMITTEE 1887.

Mayor EVERETT D. GODFREY.

Aldermen.

FRANCIS S. BABBITT, HENRY W. COLBY.

President RIPLEY W. TOWNSEND.

Councilmen.

CHARLES S. ANTHONY, E. CLARENCE HOLT,

CRYSIS T. SCOTT.

COMMITTEE 1888.

Mayor RICHARD HENRY HALL.

Aldermen.

CHARLES S. ANTHONY, JOHN H. ELDRIDGE,

President RIPLEY W. TOWNSEND.

Councilmen.

E. CLARENCE HOLT, ALDEN H. BLAKE,

EDWARD A. FAY.

COMMITTEE 1889.

Mayor RICHARD HENRY HALL.

Aldermen.

EDWARD H. TEMPLE, CHARLES S. ANTHONY,

President RIPLEY W. TOWNSEND.

Councilmen.

E. CLARENCE HOLT, ALDEN H. BLAKE,

EDWARD A. FAY.

CITY GOVERNMENT, 1889.

Mayor.

RICHARD HENRY HALL.

Aldermen.

EDWARD H. TEMPLE, *Chairman.*

EDWARD H. TEMPLE,	BENJAMIN MORRIS,
CHARLES S. ANTHONY,	ARTHUR K. WILLIAMS,
A. GILBERT WILLIAMS,	GEORGE N. ELMES,
G. ARTHUR LINCOLN,	WILLIAM MCAUSLAND,

EDWIN A. TETLOW, *Clerk.*

Common Council.

RIPLEY W. TOWNSEND, *President.*

HERBERT N. PIERCE,	MARCUS A. DARV,
J. ALFRED MESSINGER,	ALBERT M. CLARK,
ALDEN H. BLAKE,	JAMES H. LINCOLN,
E. CLARENCE HOLT,	THOMAS F. HOYE,
JOHN T. FRANKS,	FREDERICK V. BROWN,
WILLIS K. HODGMAN,	CHARLES L. JOHNSON,
WINTHROP A. ROBINSON,	FREDERICK E. AUSTIN,
GUSTAVUS T. FISHER,	JOHN A. McDONALD,
EDWARD A. FAY,	*DAVID JOHNSON,
HENRY A. SHORT,	FREDERICK A. WALKER,
CHARLES E. MASON,	JOHN C. FINN,
NOAH LEMAIRE,	GEORGE ELLAM,

JOSEPH R. TALLMAN, *Clerk.*

*Deceased.

NOTE OF COMMITTEE ON PUBLICATION.

Charged with the care of preparing for publication the proceedings of the Two Hundred and Fiftieth Anniversary of Taunton, the committee wish, first of all, to express the general feeling of gratification in the favor with which the celebration was regarded by the thousands of visiting friends. Numerous letters have been received, congratulating the city on the success of the first memorial occasion in its history.

The design of this publication is to reproduce and preserve on the printed page all which was said and done during these two memorable days, for the instruction and benefit of the coming generations. There is no attempt to go beyond these prescribed limits. It is hoped the book, such as it is, may suggest to some future historian a more complete account of the ancient Taunton, than has ever yet been produced.

SAMUEL HOPKINS EMERY,	} Committee on	
WILLIAM EDDY FULLER,		Publication
JAMES HENRY DEAN,		} of Proceedings.

INTRODUCTORY NOTICE.

The first suggestion during the two centuries and a half of Taunton's distinct existence as a town and city of a suitable observance of the anniversary of its birth, occurred, so far as the records show, on this wise :—

TAUNTON, JULY 20, 1885.

At a meeting of the Old Colony Historical Society, Samuel Hopkins Emery offered the following Preamble and Resolution:—

WHEREAS, the time is near, when the two hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the incorporation of the most ancient towns of the Old Colony should be appropriately observed and whereas it is fitting that the Old Colony Historical Society should call attention to the observance and take the initiatory steps thereto. Therefore,

RESOLVED, That William E. Fuller, Henry Williams, Edmund H. Bennett, Timothy Gordon, Charles A. Reed, Edgar H. Reed and James H. Dean be a committee of the Society to consider the whole subject of such an observance and to report, as early as they may be able, the exact dates of the settlement and incorporation of these towns and to recommend some form of commemorating their beginning whether as settled or incorporated.*

*It was in the mind of the mover of this Resolution to communicate with the towns of the Old Colony which in their settlement antedated Taunton viz. Duxbury and Scituate, which he accordingly did, suggesting a suitable observance. Duxbury at its annual meeting, April 4, 1887, voted to celebrate and fixed on the 17th of June, of that year as the day. Justin Winsor, whose parents were natives of the town delivered the historical address and Governors Long and Ames, President Boardman of the Senate, Speaker Noyes of the House, Secretary Peirce and other distinguished men honored the occasion with their presence and were heard at the Banquet. The observance of the day was a great success. This good example has been followed by other towns—by Sandwich and Yarmouth, Tuesday the 3d of September, 1889.

After extended remarks from Mr. Emery and others, the Preamble and Resolution were unanimously adopted, an amendment being made thereto by adding the name of S. Hopkins Emery as chairman to the list of names proposed in the Resolution.

The first meeting of this committee was held in what was then Cedar Street Chapel, now Historical Hall, Oct. 3d, 1885. Present, the chairman, S. Hopkins Emery, Edmund H. Bennett, William E. Fuller, Henry Williams, Charles A. Reed, Edgar H. Reed. William E. Fuller was chosen secretary. It was voted, that some appropriate observance of the approaching 250th Anniversary of the settlement of Taunton be provided for. Further discussion followed, chiefly upon the question of time when the community of Cohannet first obtained recognition by the General Court at New Plymouth, as a corporate body, no distinct act of Incorporation having been found in the records of Plymouth Colony.

Committee adjourned to meet at the same place, Oct. 10.

At the adjourned meeting, Oct. 10, after considerable discussion, on motion of Edmund H. Bennett, it was voted, to report to the Society the recommendation that the City Government be requested to appoint a committee of conference to consider the question not only of time but the whole subject of an observance, such as is contemplated.

At the quarterly meeting of the Old Colony Historical Society, held Oct. 20, such a report was made, its recommendation was adopted, the Society's committee continued with authority to act in concert with any committee the City Government might appoint.

So near the close of the city's municipal year, it did not seem best to call the attention of the City Government to the subject, and it was not till April 7, 1886, the committee of

the Old Colony Historical Society passed the following vote :

That the City Government of Taunton be requested to appoint a committee of its own members to act in conference with the committee heretofore appointed by the Old Colony Historical Society to take into consideration the matter of celebrating the 250th Anniversary of Taunton and that the President be requested to lay the matter before the Mayor at the earliest opportunity.

This was accordingly done and soon after, the attention of the City Government was called to the subject and a committee of conference was appointed, consisting of the Mayor, R. Henry Hall, Aldermen Daniel Carey and Henry W. Colby, President George H. Rhodes of the Council and Councilman John H. Eldridge.

April 20, 1886, the first meeting of the Joint Committee was held in the City Hall, Mayor Hall being in the chair. William E. Fuller was chosen secretary.

On motion of S. Hopkins Emery, it was unanimously voted, that in the opinion of this Joint Committee, it is desirable to observe by appropriate ceremonies the 250th Anniversary of the founding of Taunton.

On motion of Edmund H. Bennett, and after much discussion, it was voted, that, in the opinion of this committee, we should recommend the year 1889 as the time when such anniversary may be properly celebrated. No other business was transacted.

It being decided, notwithstanding the purchase and settlement of Taunton by the name of Cohannet, early as 1637, that it was best to defer the observance of the 250th Anniversary of its founding till such a time as it was represented by deputies in the General Court at Plymouth, under the name of Taunton in 1639, no further meetings of the Joint Committee were held during the year 1886, only Oct,

5th, to order a report to their respective constituencies, recommending that some day in 1889 be observed as the 250th Anniversary of the founding of Taunton.

Oct. 11, 1886, William E. Fuller, secretary of the committee of the Old Colony Historical Society, reported to the Society, when the committee was continued and made a permanent committee, with instructions to make further needed arrangements for the proposed celebration and with authority to fill vacancies, enlarge its number and appoint sub-committees for special service.

In 1887, the City Government was represented in the Joint Committee by Mayor Everett D. Godfrey, Aldermen Francis S. Babbitt, Henry W. Colby, President Ripley W. Townsend of the Council and Councilmen Charles S. Anthony, E. Clarence Holt and Crysia T. Scott.

The first meeting of the Joint Committee was held June 4th and S. Hopkins Emery was chosen secretary.

On motion of the secretary, the proceedings of previous years on the subject of a celebration were ratified by this committee and accepted as authority for still further action toward the proposed observance of the founding of Taunton sometime in 1889.

• On motion of Charles A. Reed, Mayor Hall, S. Hopkins Emery and James H. Dean were appointed a committee to name historic places in the territory of ancient Taunton and suggest suitable memorial tablets or inscriptions.

On motion of Alderman Babbitt, voted, that the Mayor be authorized to seek the co-operation of adjacent towns, which once formed a part of Taunton.

On suggestion of the Mayor, it was moved by President Townsend of the Council, seconded by Councilman Anthony, and voted, that the portion of this committee representing the Old Colony Historical Society be requested to suggest

the name or names of one or more persons, in their judgment suitable to prepare an address or addresses on the occasion of the proposed celebration.

The committee did not meet again until Nov. 22, 1887, when the name of Edmund H. Bennett was suggested as the proper person to deliver the historical address and he was accordingly chosen.

The committee also fixed on Tuesday the 4th day of June, 1889, as the day for the celebration, not only as being in a pleasant season of the year, but, particularly as commemorating the First General Assembly in Plymouth Colony, when towns for the first time sent deputies to Plymouth for legislative purposes, Taunton being one of the number.

The committee voted, to ask the City Council, to secure, if necessary, special legislation the coming winter, for authority to appropriate money for the purposes of the celebration.

In 1888, the City Government was represented in the Joint Committee by Mayor R. Henry Hall, Aldermen Charles S. Anthony, John H. Eldridge, Councilmen, Ripley W. Townsend, President, Alden H. Blake, Edward A. Fay and E. Clarence Holt.

The first meeting was held Jan. 18. The secretary of last year was reappointed and all former proceedings ratified. Five thousand dollars was the sum fixed upon to ask the Council for authority from the Legislature to appropriate.

Edmund H. Bennett signified his acceptance of appointment for the historical address.

It was voted to meet again soon, and secure so far as possible a representation from the Board of Selectmen of the six adjoining towns, Raynham, Berkley, Dighton, Nor-

ton, Mansfield and Easton, for consultation and conference.

This meeting was held Feb. 11, when the Mayor read the letter of invitation to the selectmen of the six adjoining towns to be present for consultation as to the proposed celebration. The town of Easton was represented by Messrs. Hiram Williams and Henry W. Heath. No other towns responded.

After a full consideration of the part which it was desired the six adjoining towns should take in this celebration, on motion of the secretary, it was unanimously voted that the Joint Committee on the 250th Anniversary of the founding of Taunton hereby request the six adjoining towns, which once formed a part of Taunton, to appoint at their coming town meetings, committees authorized to confer with this committee and to act in their behalf, in concert with it.

At this meeting, Henry W. Colby was chosen Poet for the day of celebration.

The next meeting of the committee was May 26. Henry Williams, of the committee representing the Old Colony Historical Society, having died, and Timothy Gordon, resigned, John W. D. Hall and Henry M. Lovering were appointed in their place and were present at the meeting. There were also present from Dighton, Whitman Chase, George E. Gooding, Alfred W. Paul; from Easton, Hiram Williams; from Norton, Isaac F. Braman, George H. Talbot; from Raynham, T. B. Johnson, Stephen R. Lincoln, Damon D. White. Mansfield was not represented.

Henry W. Colby signified his acceptance of appointment as Poet.

The committee on memorial tablets was enlarged by adding John W. D. Hall and William E. Fuller from Taunton, and one from each of the six adjoining towns—Alfred

W. Paul, from Dighton ; William L. Chaffin from Easton ; Joseph W. White, from Raynham ; Elkanah Hall, from Mansfield ; Austin Messinger, from Norton ; Giles L. Leach, from Berkley. This enlarged committee was busy during the year, and made reports at meetings held Aug. 23 and Dec. 29.

The City Government was represented in the Joint Committee in 1889, by Mayor R. Henry Hall, Aldermen Edward H. Temple, Charles S. Anthony, Ripley W. Townsend, President of the Council, Councilmen Alden H. Blake, Edward A. Fay, E. Clarence Holt and Ex-Selectmen Cornelius White and Nathan S. Williams. The committee of the Old Colony Historical Society was enlarged by the addition of Alfred B. Hodges and George A. Washburn.

At the first meeting of the committee, January 28, all past proceedings were accepted and ratified.

S. Hopkins Emery, the secretary of the past two years was re-chosen. The committee on historic places and tablets was re-appointed, with the addition of Edgar H. Reed.

It was voted to take two days for the celebration, Tuesday and Wednesday the 4th and 5th of June, 1889. Also, to appoint a committee, of which the Mayor should be chairman, to report program for the two days and a list of sub-committees to carry out the proposed program.

The secretary was requested to call the attention of the clergy of Taunton and the surrounding towns to the celebration and suggest discourses and other exercises on the Sabbath preceding, suited to the occasion.

On the 4th of February, John E. Sanford was chosen toastmaster, who subsequently declined to serve and William H. Fox was chosen.

At a meeting held the 23d of February, Henry M. Lovering was chosen chief marshal, by acclamation and a

committee heretofore appointed, reported through its chairman, the Mayor, a program for the two days' celebration and a list of sub-committees required by that program.

The report was substantially agreed to, the same appearing in the lists of committees hereafter given and the proceedings of the two days published in this book.

The Joint Committee have held twenty meetings, arranging for the celebration, and these meetings have been characterized by the utmost harmony and a common desire to make the celebration of the 250th Anniversary of the founding of Taunton memorable in the annals of the Old Colony of Plymouth and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

OFFICERS OF THE DAY.

PRESIDENT OF THE DAY.

RICHARD HENRY HALL, *Mayor of Taunton.*

VICE PRESIDENTS FROM TAUNTON.

WILLIAM H. BENT,	CHARLES H. LEAROYD,
WILLIAM H. FOX,	CHARLES L. LOVERING,
WILLIAM E. FULLER,	SILAS D. PRESBREY.

VICE PRESIDENTS FROM THE SIX ADJOINING TOWNS.

Norton, AUSTIN MESSINGER,
Dighton, GEORGE E. GOODING,
Easton, OAKES A. AMES,
Raynham, NATHAN W. SHAW,
Berkley, GILES L. LEACH,
Mansfield, ERASTUS M. REED.

JOINT GENERAL COMMITTEE

Representing the City Government and the Old Colony Historical Society.

R. HENRY HALL, Mayor, *Chairman.*

S. HOPKINS EMERY, *Secretary.*

EDWARD H. TEMPLE,	EDMUND H. BENNETT,
CHARLES S. ANTHONY,	JAMES H. DEAN,
RIPLEY W. TOWNSEND,	WILLIAM E. FULLER,
ALDEN H. BLAKE,	CHARLES A. REED,
EDWARD A. FAY,	EDGAR H. REED,
E. CLARENCE HOLT,	JOHN W. D. HALL,
CORNELIUS WHITE,	HENRY M. LOVERING,
NATHAN S. WILLIAMS,	ALFRED B. HODGES,
GEORGE A. WASHBURN.	

SUB COMMITTEES.

*Committee on Historic Places and Memorial Tablets.*R. HENRY HALL, *Chairman.*JOHN W. D. HALL, *Secretary.*JAMES H. DEAN,
WILLIAM E. FULLER,S. HOPKINS EMERY,
EDGAR H. REED.

All of Taunton.

SAMUEL A. CHAPIN, *of Norton.*ALFRED W. PAUL, *of Dighton.*WILLIAM L. CHAFFIN, *of Easton.*JOSEPH W. WHITE, *of Raynham.*GILES L. LEACH, *of Berkley.*ELKANAH HALL, *of Mansfield.**Committee on Finance.*R. HENRY HALL, *Chairman.*GEORGE A. WASHBURN, *Secretary.*

HENRY M. LOVERING.

*Committee on Invitation of Guests.*R. HENRY HALL, *Chairman.*S. HOPKINS EMERY, *Secretary.*

WILLIAM E. FULLER,

JOHN W. D. HALL,

HENRY M. LOVERING,

GEORGE A. WASHBURN.

*Committee on Reception of the Press.*WILLIAM REED, JR., *Chairman.*WILLIAM F. GREENOUGH, *Secretary.*

WILLIAM F. KENNEDY.

Committee on Salute and Bell Ringing.

E. CLARENCE HOLT.

*Committee on Publication of Proceedings.*S. HOPKINS EMERY, *Chairman.*JAMES H. DEAN, *Secretary.*

WILLIAM E. FULLER.

*Committee on Decorations.*EDWARD H. TEMPLE, *Chairman and Secretary.*

FRANCIS S. BABBITT,

NATHANIEL J. CROSSMAN,

HERBERT L. PECK,

HERBERT T. WASHBURN.

*Committee on Vocal and Instrumental Music.*CHARLES L. LOVERING, *Chairman.*WALTER M. DUNBAR, *Secretary.*

GEORGE BRIDGHAM,

LEANDER SOULE,

MRS. A. CLINTON RHODES.

*Committee on Banquet.*CHARLES S. ANTHONY, *Chairman.*RIPLEY W. TOWNSEND, *Secretary.*

EDWARD F. GALLIGAN,

GEORGE H. RHODES,

JOSEPH S. TIDD.

*Committee on Ball.*FREDERICK MASON, *Chairman.*JOSEPH R. TALLMAN, *Secretary.*

CHARLES P. FOSTER,

JOHN H. GALLIGAN,

EDWIN A. TETLOW,

RIPLEY W. TOWNSEND,

ALFRED B. SPROAT,

JAMES C. SPROAT.

*Committee on Printing.*EDWIN A. TETLOW, *Chairman.*GEORGE A. WASHBURN, *Secretary.*

S. HOPKINS EMERY,

SILAS D. PRESBRY,

ALBERT E. SWASEY.

*Committee on Carriages and Transportation.*JOHN H. CHURCH, *Chairman.*BYRON F. KINGSBURY, *Secretary.*

ALDEN H. BLAKE,

EDWARD A. FAY.

JOSEPH L. MACOMBER, JR.

*Committee on Parade.*HENRY M. LOVERING, Chief Marshal, *Chairman.*HARRISON A. CUSHMAN, *Secretary.*

ORVILLE A. BARKER,

LEONARD B. HIGGINS,

WILLIAM H. BENT,

ALFRED B. HODGES,

HENRY G. BROWNELL,

CHARLES L. LOVERING,

GEORGE W. COLBY,

HENRY C. PERRY,

ABNER COLEMAN,

HENRY G. REED,

N. BRADFORD DEAN,

GEORGE E. WILBUR,

HENRY A. DICKERMAN,

PHILANDER WILLIAMS,

SOLON R. WRIGHT.

*Committee on Fire Works.*E. CLARENCE HOLT, *Chairman.*JAMES A. TINKHAM, *Secretary.*

CHARLES S. ANTHONY,

JOHN J. BARKER,

DANIEL CAREY.

*Committee on Tableaux.*WILLIAM R. BILLINGS, *Chairman and Secretary.*

ALBERT L. CARPENTER,

JAMES H. DEAN,

WILLIAM C. LOVERING,

JAMES C. SPROAT,

ALBERT E. SWASEY,

HARRY H. TOWNSEND.

*Committee on Location of School Children.*GEORGE C. CAPRON, *Chairman and Secretary.*

GEORGE BRIDGHAM,

EDWARD H. TEMPLE,

EDWARD A. FAY,

F. ARTHUR WALKER.

*Committee on Halls.*ALDEN H. BLAKE, *Chairman.*JOHN H. ELDRIDGE, *Secretary.*

JOHN C. WALKER.

*Committee on Loan Exhibit.*JOHN W. D. HALL, *Chairman.*S. HOPKINS EMERY, *Secretary.*

JOHN F. MONTGOMERY.

MRS. NATHALIE E. BAYLIES,	MRS. HENRY M. LOVERING,
MRS. GEORGE BRABROOK,	MRS. CHARLES L. LOVERING,
MRS. WALTER J. CLEMON,	MRS. FREDERICK MASON,
MRS. JOSEPH J. COOPER,	MRS. THOMPSON NEWBURY,
MRS. JOSEPH DUNBAR,	MRS. JOHN PAUL,
MRS. FRANK L. FISH,	MRS. JOSEPH PHILBRICK,
MRS. FREDERICK L. FISH,	MRS. HENRY G. REED,
MRS. R. HENRY HALL,	MRS. S. R. TOWNSEND,
MRS. ELISHA T. JACKSON,	MISS ADELINE S. BAYLIES,

MISS SARAH B. WILLIAMS.

[The above from Taunton.]

MISS HARRIOT A. NEWCOMB, Norton.

MRS. EBENEZER ANDREWS, MRS. MARY C. ROSE, Dighton.

MRS. JOHN O. DEAN, MRS. OLIVE J. GILMORE, Easton.

MISS AMY LEONARD, MRS. ALCOTT E. LINCOLN, Raynham.

MRS. ALFRED BOARDMAN, MRS. CHARLES COREY, Berkley.

Mansfield was not represented.

Committee on Flowers.

MISS ANNIE ANDROS,	MRS. C. H. LINCOLN,
MRS. J. J. BARKER,	MRS. ALFRED MESSINGER,
MRS. O. A. BARKER,	MRS. F. H. MIETT,
MRS. DANIEL CAREY,	MRS. C. E. MONROE,
MRS. W. J. CLEMON,	MRS. J. F. MONTGOMERY,
MISS ALICE G. COLBY,	MRS. O. S. PAIGE,
MISS MARIA CONVERSE,	MISS ANNIE PAUL,
MRS. H. L. DAVIS,	MISS CHARLOTTE L. PECKHAM,
MRS. A. N. DYER,	MRS. A. C. RHODES,
MISS ALICE LANE,	MISS ANNIE WOODWARD,

*Committee on Reception of Guests.*R. HENRY HALL, Mayor, *Chairman*.S. HOPKINS EMERY, *Secretary*.

CHARLES S. ANTHONY,

EDWARD H. TEMPLE.

RIPLEY W. TOWNSEND, President of the Council.

ALDEN H. BLAKE,

EDWARD A. FAY,

E. CLARENCE HOLT.

CORNELIUS WHITE,

NATHAN S. WILLIAMS,

EDMUND H. BENNETT,

JAMES H. DEAN,

WILLIAM E. FULLER,

JOHN W. D. HALL,

ALFRED B. HODGES,

HENRY M. LOVERING,

CHARLES A. REED,

EDGAR H. REED,

GEORGE A. WASHBURN.

Aldermen.

GEORGE N. ELMES,

G. ARTHUR LINCOLN,

WILLIAM MCAUSLAND,

BENJAMIN MORRIS,

A. GILBERT WILLIAMS,

ARTHUR K. WILLIAMS.

Councilmen.

FREDERICK E. AUSTIN,

FREDERICK V. BROWN,

ALBERT M. CLARK,

MARCUS A. DARY,

GEORGE ELLAM,

JOHN C. FINN,

GUSTAVUS T. FISHER,

JOHN T. FRANKS,

WILLIS K. HODGMAN,

THOMAS F. HOYE,

CHARLES L. JOHNSON,

*DAVID JOHNSON,

NOAH LEMAIRE,

JAMES H. LINCOLN,

JOHN A. MACDONALD,

J. ALFRED MESSINGER,

HERBERT N. PIERCE,

WINTHROP A. ROBINSON,

HENRY A. SHORT,

FREDERICK A. WALKER,

CHARLES E. MASON.

Additional Members from Taunton.

FREDERICK W. ABBOTT,

ARTHUR M. ALGER,

EBENEZER C. ARNOLD,

HENRY D. ATWOOD,

GEORGE H. BABBITT,

FRANCIS S. BABBITT,

ANSON J. BARKER,

ORVILLE A. BARKER,

HENRY P. BARSTOW,

JOSIAH C. BARTLETT,

*Deceased.

Committee on Reception of Guests Continued.

HENRY F. BASSETT,
WILLIAM R. BLACK,
ALFRED BRABROOK,
ISAAC B. BRIGGS,
JOHN P. BROWN,
ANSEL O. BURT,
HOPKINS B. CADY,
DANIEL CAREY,
JOHN H. CHURCH,
WILLIAM B. CHURCH,
WALTER J. CLEMON,
HENRY W. COLBY,
WILLIAM COX,
HENRY S. CULVER,
JAMES M. CUSHMAN,
SETH L. CUSHMAN,
EDWIN A. DARY,
EZRA DAVOL,
N. BRADFORD DEAN,
SAMUEL A. DEAN,
JEREMY B. DENNETT,
JOHN H. ELDRIDGE,
THOMAS O. FALVEY,
JOHN P. FORBES,
WILLIAM H. FOX,
EVERETT D. GODFREY,
CHRISTOPHER A. HACK,
FREDERICK S. HALL,
CHARLES F. HANSON,
HENRY S. HART,
JOHN T. HAWKINS,
LEONARD B. HIGGINS,
GEORGE F. HOWARD,
FRANK A. HUBBARD,
ELISHA T. JACKSON,
CHARLES F. JOHNSON,

WILLIAM H. BENT,
WILLIAM F. BODFISH,
GEORGE BRABROOK,
JAMES BROWN,
CHARLES H. BUFFINGTON,
L. CLOVIS BUSSIÈRE,
GEORGE C. CAPRON,
GEORGE F. CHACE,
LEBARON B. CHURCH,
NATHAN CLARK,
GEORGE W. COLBY,
PETER H. CORR,
NATHANIEL J. CROSSMAN,
CHARLES CURTIS,
HORATIO L. CUSHMAN,
GEORGE P. CUTLER,
WILLIAM C. DAVENPORT,
CHARLES R. DEAN,
ROBERT S. DEAN,
HEMAN P. DEFOREST,
HORACE W. DURGIN,
ABRAM D. EMERY,
CHARLES H. FIELD,
CHARLES FOSTER,
HENRY J. FULLER,
TIMOTHY GORDON,
WILLIAM M. HALF,
HERBERT E. HALL,
EDWARD O. HART,
JOHN W. HART,
JOSEPH W. HAYWARD,
EDWIN M. HILLS,
CHARLES T. HUBBARD,
EDWARD L. HYDE,
EDWARD N. JENNEY,
ELIJAH U. JONES,

Committee on Reception of Guests Continued.

HOWARD A. L. KING,
JOSEPH MAURICE LAMOTHE,
NATHAN LAWRENCE,
HENRY B. LEACH,
LORENZO LINCOLN,
CHARLES L. LOVERING,
DONALD MACDOUGALL,
EDWARD B. MALTBY,
FREDERICK MASON,
JOHN T. MEATS,
ERASTUS MORSE,
GEORGE O. MORSE,
EDWARD MOTT,
THOMPSON NEWBURY,
NOMUS PAIGE,
ABEL W. PARKER,
JOHN PAULL,
JOHN B. PERKINS,
JOSEPH PHILBRICK,
ALFRED C. PLACE,
FRANKLIN PRATT,
GEORGE H. REED,
JOHN D. REED,
MARCUS M. RHODES,
CHARLES E. RICHMOND,
JOHN S. SAMPSON,
JOHN C. SHARP, JR.,
NATHAN H. SKINNER,
LEANDER SOULE,
ABIEL B. STAPLES,
ALBERT E. SWASEY,
EDWIN A. TETLOW,
CHARLES THORNTON,
ELIJAH TOLMAN,
SALMON WASHBURN,
LEOYD E. WHITE.

JOHN KITTREDGE,
ANDREW J. LAWRENCE,
ARUNAH A. LEACH,
CHARLES H. LEAROYD,
THOMAS J. LOTHROP,
WILLIAM C. LOVERING,
JAMES T. MAHER,
FRANCIS MANSFIELD,
JOSEPH F. McDONOUGH,
DANIEL L. MITCHELL,
FRANCIS L. MORSE,
HENRY W. MORSE,
JOSEPH MURPHY,
JOHN O'HEARNE, JR.,
ONIAS S. PAIGE,
CHARLES H. PAULL,
DAVID D. PERKINS,
PARLEY I. PERRIN,
WILLIAM H. PHILLIPS,
WILLIAM H. PLEADWELL,
SILAS D. PRESBREY,
HENRY G. REED,
WILLIAM REED, JR.,
S. HOLBROOK RHODES,
JAMES F. ROACH,
JOHN E. SANFORD,
ZACHEUS SHERMAN,
WILLIAM J. SMITH,
ALFRED V. STALL,
SYLVANUS N. STAPLES,
JOHN P. SWINERTON,
SYLVANUS M. THOMAS,
E. DAWES TISDALE,
DANIEL A. TREFETHEN,
LUTHER B. WEST,
WILLIAM L. WHITE.

WILLIAM L. WHITE, JR.,
 ALEXANDER H. WILLIAMS,
 GEORGE B. WILLIAMS,
 JOHN R. WILLIAMS,
 NATHAN WILMARTH,
 JOSEPH K. WILSON,

JOSEPH E. WILBAR,
 A. KING WILLIAMS,
 G. EDGAR WILLIAMS,
 LEWIS WILLIAMS,
 GEORGE C. WILSON,
 GEORGE M. WOODWARD.

Other members of the Committee.

Dighton, JAMES H. CODDING, CHARLES N. SIMMONS,
Berkley, HERBERT A. DEAN, THOMAS PAUL,
Norton, GEORGE R. PERRY, GEORGE H. TALBOT.

Easton, Mansfield and Raynham failed to appoint.

N. B. Some few names fail to appear on the lists of committees of such persons as felt obliged to decline serving. This statement is made to explain the absence of certain names, which might be looked for.

Committee of Publication.

PROCEEDINGS

On the morning of the First Day in Music Hall.

The Literary Exercises of the Anniversary were begun on the morning of June 4th, and proceeded in accordance with the following

PROGRAMME :

"GLORIA," from Mozart's Twelfth Mass.,

BEETHOVEN SOCIETY.

PRAYER.

REV. SAMUEL HOPKINS EMERY.

ADDRESS OF WELCOME.

RICHARD HENRY HALL, MAYOR.

"The Heavens are Telling," from Creation, - - - - - *Haydn*.

BEETHOVEN SOCIETY.

HISTORICAL ADDRESS.

HON. EDMUND HATCH BENNETT.

"Star-Spangled Banner,"

BEETHOVEN SOCIETY.

POEM.

HENRY WILLIAM COLBY, Esq.

CLOSING HYMN.

"America,"

BEETHOVEN SOCIETY AND AUDIENCE.

Accompanied by REEVES' AMERICAN BAND.

BENEDICTION.!

REV. CHARLES HENRY LEAROYD.

West—Crocker House.

County Court House.

TAUNTON GREEN, 1889.

Leonard—Padelford House.

King House.



PROCEEDINGS AT MUSIC HALL.

On the morning of the first day of the celebration Music Hall was crowded with spectators, the stage filled with officials and invited guests and the whole scene one of the grandest, perhaps in all respects the grandest, in the history of the city. The proceedings were opened with the beautiful "Gloria" from Mozart's Twelfth Mass by the chorus and orchestra. It was magnificently performed.

The Mayor then introduced Rev. S. Hopkins Emery as chaplain of the day, who said :

Let me read a few words from that Blessed Book, which has been the solace and strength of the fathers and mothers of New England in all its generations—of the founders and first settlers of this ancient town and their childrens' children down to the present time :

We have heard with our ears, O God, our fathers have told us, what work thou didst in their days, in the days of old. Thou didst drive out the nations with thy hand and plantedst them in. For they gat not the land in possession by their own sword, neither did their own arm save them ; but thy right hand and thine arm and the light of thy countenance, because thou hadst a favour unto them.

That which we have heard and known, and our fathers have told us, we will not hide from their children, telling to the generation to come, the praises of the Lord, and his strength and his wondrous works that he hath done. For he established a testimony in Jacob and appointed a law in Israel, which he commanded our fathers, that they should make them known to their children, that the generation to come might know them, even the children which should be born, who should arise

and tell them to their children, that they might set their hope in God and not forget the works of God but keep his commandments.

The reading of the Scripture lesson was followed by prayer :

God of our fathers, we, their children and thy children, bow reverently and humbly before Thee on this glad day. We adore the riches of the Divine goodness in which our God hath passed before us and those who have preceded us in this place, lo, these two hundred and fifty years. We this day review these centuries of busy life and behold them crowded with tokens of God's care, guiding grace and abundant blessing. We unitedly bring our tribute of thanksgiving and praise. We thank Thee, Lord, for all the precious memories which crowd these memorial days. We thank Thee for the re-union of long separated friends—for the return to the home circle of such as years ago went out from us. We thank Thee for the coming of such as represent this Commonwealth and the sisterhood of states, in their various departments of government, in their industry and in their social life. We commend to Thee, merciful Father, our general government, our state government, the cities and towns in all this broad land, whilst in a very special manner our supplication is in behalf of our own city, its officers and its people, that, as Thou hast been with us in the generations past, Thou wilt never leave nor forsake in the generations to come. With the increase of our population and the enlargement of material resources, grant, Lord, the still greater blessing of spiritual growth—a higher civilization—a nobler manhood and womanhood—a completer likeness in all who make our homes, to the perfect man, Christ Jesus. To this end, let all our schools and churches, and home training, household influences conform to the teachings of the Great Teacher and be under the inspiration

and guidance of his most holy religion. Direct, Lord, in all which is said or done, this day and this hour. All which we ask in his most worthy name, who hath taught us to pray, saying,

Our Father who art in Heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done in earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory for ever, Amen.

His Honor, Mayor Richard Henry Hall, then welcomed the sons and daughters, friends and visitors in the following words :

MAYOR'S ADDRESS.

Ladies and Gentlemen:—

It falls to my pleasant lot to welcome you to the celebration of the founding of the ancient town of Taunton. Two hundred and fifty years on the page of the world's history seems but a trifle, and yet that same number of years in the history of our own town carries us back to the earliest days of colonial life. How changed the scene. How different the condition of this locality—its inhabitants, its industries and its relations. From a few scattered families, we have become a flourishing city of twenty-six thousand people.

In place of a small and lowly settlement in the midst of the forest, stands to-day a thriving municipality, peopled by a busy, industrious populace. Where once the red man

held undisputed sway, and the sturdy pioneers tilled the soil, now trades and pursuits of manifold description are followed on every hand.

Instead of a barter trade confined for the most part to the indigenous red men, have sprung up commerce and negotiations with a thousand and one distant places. We stand to-day a prosperous and happy community, and yet the vast change which has been wrought in this long span of years, has not easily been accomplished. Our dear country has taken the foremost place in the family of nations, but with what sacrifices has this been done, and through what an ordeal has it passed. The savages who once roamed at will through its wilds, have been driven to remote regions and well nigh exterminated.

Two dangers which assail every nation, we have successfully met and passed.

Foreign invasion will no longer have terrors for us, and internal strife is not easily renewed. These and many other obstacles have been surmounted in our nation's progress, and in them Taunton has taken an earnest and active part; and so she may fittingly say to-day as she looks upon her fortunate and prosperous people, "This is my reward."

A quarter of a thousand years have passed. It is very fitting therefore, at this time for us to pause in our daily routine of duty, to forsake our fields, our work shops and places of business, and gather here in the observance of this natal day; and as we have been guided and protected by Divine Providence in the past, may we humbly claim the same guidance in the future, and by God's blessing continue a united and prosperous people. I bid you all a most hearty welcome. To the daughter towns, who for many years were bound to us, and of us were a part, but who now lead an

independent existence, mother Taunton to-day extends her warmest welcome. She bids them be merry with her in the festivities now to be held, for to-day ancient Taunton and our present city join hands and celebrate.

To the most distinguished representatives of nation and commonwealth who have honored us by their presence at this observance of her two hundred and fiftieth birthday, I give a heartfelt and generous welcome.

To *all* our guests, be they sons or daughters of Taunton, be they neighbors or from distant states, whatever may be their relations to us, we this day throw open the gates of the city, and bid them most cordial and sincere greeting.

The Beethoven Society next sung "The Heavens are Telling;" after which Mayor Hall introduced the orator of the day, Hon. Edmund H. Bennett who delivered the following

HISTORICAL ADDRESS.

Ladies and Gentlemen, Sons and Daughters of the Ancient Town of Taunton:—

It is the story of the virtues and the sufferings of that worthy band, which so successfully laid the foundations of this community, and secured for us the manifold blessings we now enjoy, that you have assembled this day with such tender interest to hear. The presentation of such a subject, which reaches so many ears, attracts so many eyes, and interests so many hearts, properly belongs to some one who is a "native here, and to the manor born;" some one, whose childhood has been passed in your daily sight, who has been

reared amid those hallowed memories that cling around your hearth-stones, and whose ancestors sleep beneath the same sod, side by side with your own. But notwithstanding the natural hesitation of one not thus blessed to undertake so delicate a duty, none of your own sons, I assure you, could more highly appreciate the honor conferred on me by your kind invitation; not the least of many others received during my residence among you. And, conscious of my own inability to adequately present so eventful a subject within the time allotted me, may I not appropriately add one more petition to those which have already ascended to the Throne of Grace from the lips of our beloved chaplain, and be permitted to repeat those devout words in which the divine poet introduced his more exalted theme:—"What in me is dark, Illumine; what is low, raise and support." With all the aid vouchsafed me, the field is so broad and the period included so long, I shall necessarily weary your patience in considering matters of public and general interest only, and, therefore, I reserve for an appendix many minor details, whatever interest they might have for some here present.

But I must hasten to the immediate topic of the hour, the treatment of which naturally assumes a more narrative form than if we already possessed complete local histories, or even former memorial addresses to which reference might be made.

The exact date of the first settlement of Taunton can not now be ascertained, and the loss of her public records by the disastrous fire of 1838 makes it difficult to satisfactorily trace her early history and progress. Many interesting facts are doubtless now wholly lost, while many others can be discovered only by the dim light thrown upon them from various collateral sources. But it is well known that in the early summer of 1621, ere the Mayflower had scarcely

completed her first return voyage to the mother-land, two distinguished pilgrims, Edward Winslow and Stephen Hopkins, whose united families at that time constituted about one-fifth of the entire Plymouth colony, passed through this region on a friendly visit to Massasoit, the great sachem of the Wampanoags. He had himself visited Plymouth in the March preceding, and had there entered into a written treaty of peace and friendship with the colonists, which was ever after called "the Peace of Plymouth;" a treaty which he faithfully kept until his dying day in 1660. In response to his friendly advances, Plymouth now sent two noble messengers, laden with gifts, to enquire after the health and welfare of this "greatest commander among the savages hereabouts," and to renew the treaty of peace and amity between them. So far as positively known, theirs were the first white feet that ever trod our soil.

Under the guidance of a friendly Indian, named Squanto; the same Squanto who afterwards taught them the still prevailing custom of fertilizing each hill of corn with a herring; they crossed the Great River on Tuesday morning July 3d, 1621, at a "knowne shole place," probably Shallow Water, at East Taunton.¹ Wending their way along the northwest bank of the river, through what is now Dean street, thence by the Neck o' Land to Dighton and Somerset, they struck southwesterly to Pockanokick, the home of the Indian Chief, situated in what is now Warren, Rhode Island, where a pure spring of living water still bears the name of Massasoit's spring.

Probably, they followed an old Indian trail leading from Plymouth to the Narragansett, and recently there have been discovered on the farm of the late Joseph B. Warner in Dighton, large flat stones in a row, through wet and swampy places, as if for stepping stones for the traveller. Winslow's

1. See Appendix A.

description of the country, written at the time, contains these words:—"The ground is very good on both sides (of the river), it being for the most part cleared. Thousands of men have lived there, which dyed in a great plague not long since; and pitty it was, and is, to see so many goodly fieldes, and so well seated, without men to dress and manure the same. * * * * There is much good timber, both Oake, Wallnut-trees, Firre, Beach, and exceeding great Chestnut trees. The country in respect of the lying of it, is both champanie and hilly, like many places in England."¹

With the exception of Winslow's account of a subsequent visit to Massasoit, two years later, we have no authentic mention of this locality for the next fifteen years. The growth of the Plymouth colony was slow and feeble, her struggle being for existence rather than for extension. Her first new town (Scituate) was not created until October 5, 1636, by which time the younger but richer Massachusetts colony had planted nearly a score of flourishing towns,² had pushed as far northerly as Dover, N. H., and penetrated the interior to Springfield, and even into Rhode Island and Connecticut. The first settlers of Taunton also came chiefly from the Massachusetts and not from the Plymouth colony. They came over in the Arbella, and the Mary and John, rather than in the Mayflower or the Fortune. Of all the Massachusetts towns Dorchester seems to have been the most enterprising in planting new settlements, and as early as 1637, a number of its people, "feeling much straitened for want of room," and perhaps having their attention turned in this direction by the extension that year of Dorchester bounds southward to the Old Colony line, united with some others, the exact number is uncertain, in purchasing a large tract of land in this region, intending to make it their future home.

1. See Appendix B.

2. Certainly Boston, Cambridge, Charlestown, Concord, Dedham, Dorchester, Hingham, Ipswich, Lynn, Medford, Newbury, Quincy, Roxbury, Salem, Springfield Watertown and Weymouth,—though not chronologically in that order.

Neither the original deed of this purchase, nor any record of it, can now be found, nor is its exact date known ; but there is abundant reason to believe that it came from Massasoit, whose Indian name was Ousamequin, to whom the purchasers paid two shillings per acre on their home lots to extinguish the Indian title.¹ This conveyance was confirmed in 1663, by his son Philip, who received sixteen pounds more. Indeed it is an established fact that our forefathers never took possession of a foot of land in this colony, which they did not fairly purchase of the Indians, with the exception of Assonet Neck, and some other similar sections, which they were not allowed to buy, but which were confiscated by the Government to pay the expenses of King Philip's war, and sold by the Colony to individuals. A list of the first purchasers may be found in the Proprietors' Records, now in the city clerk's office, among whom we find the prominent names of Richard Williams, George Hall, William Poole, John Deane, John Crosman, Walter Deane, John Gilbert, Henry Andrews and William Scaddinge, from whom doubtless that lovely, but not fully appreciated sheet of water, Scadding's Pond, derives its name.² This Richard Williams, whose many descendants have led honorable and useful lives among us for generations, deserves justly to be called the father of the town, or certainly one of the most prominent of them.

The monument to Elizabeth Poole, now standing in Mt. Pleasant Cemetery, erected by the ladies of Taunton in 1836, describes her in glowing eulogy as the "Foundress of the Town of Taunton;" but her name nowhere appears as one of the original purchasers, although that of another lady, "Widdo Randall," does ; and so far as we can ascertain, the popular tradition of her purchase of the place with a jack-

1. See Appendix C.

2. See Appendix D.

knife and a peck of beans must be ranked with the legend of Romulus and Remus as the founders of Rome, with that of William Tell as the deliverer of Switzerland, or that of Pocahontas as the saviour of Captain Smith.¹ But notwithstanding the doubt that Miss Poole can justly be deemed the "foundress" of the town, we do know with sufficient certainty that she was born of noble lineage in Devonshire, England, on the 25th of August, 1588; that when nearly fifty years of age she came to this country with her younger brother William, and after a short tarry in Dorchester removed to Cohannet, and became the owner of much land in this vicinity, and an active promoter of its interests.² Gov. Winthrop says (Vol. I, p. 302) under date of 1637, "She went late thither, and endured much hardship and lost much cattle." The Poole family usually spelled their name P-o-l-e, and the plain towards Berkley was called "Mrs. Pole's plain," easily abbreviated to Pole plain, as now commonly known. Miss Poole's homestead and adjoining land containing about twenty acres, was on the south side of Main street, extending from the Bristol County Bank building easterly to near the Leonard Block, and bounded on the south by Mill river. From this estate she removed in 1653 to the corner of Dean and Winter streets, at or near the present residence of James H. Dean, Esq. With a well earned reputation for "Piety, Liberality and Sanctity of Manners," she departed this life on the 21st of May, 1654, in the sixty-sixth year of her age; and after resting in her own private tomb on her homestead estate for more than a century, her remains were removed in 1771 to the Plain Ceme-

1. The romantic story that Pocahontas saved the life of Capt. Smith by rushing between the descending war club of her father and the head of his captive, rests upon no reliable evidence. She was only thirteen years of age at the time of the alleged incident, and recently published documents leaving little doubt but that the story is, in the main, a fiction. See *English Colonization of America*, by E. D. Niell, 1871; Deane's Edition of Wingfield's Discourse of Virginia, 1859.

2. See Appendix E.

tery where her ashes still lie. Her virtues deserve to be held in perpetual remembrance.

We know but little of the events of these first years, but we learn from the Plymouth Colony Records (Vol. I. p. 105) that on the 4th of December, 1638, seven inhabitants of Cohannet, viz. William Poole, John Gilbert, Sr., Henry Andrews, John Strong,¹ John Deane, Walter Deane and Edward Case were admitted and sworn as freemen of the Colony,² having been propounded for that office sometime previously; and Mr. Strong was sworn as constable on the same day. The law of this Colony provided that "none could be admitted as freemen but such as are one and twenty years of age, at the least, and have the testimony of their neighbors that they are of sober and peaceable conversation, Orthodox in the Fundamentals of Religion, and such as have also Twenty pounds rateable Estate, at the least, in the Government." (Ply. Col. Laws, p. 258.) No Unitarian, Episcopalian or Quaker, whatever his qualifications, was eligible as a freeman under that law. The Massachusetts Colony was even more strict. There all freemen must be church members, and not only so, but all church members must become freemen, upon penalty of being "dealt with" by the Church, whatever that may mean. (4 Mass. Col. Rec. p. 420). Happily such regulations did not long survive.

On the 5th of March following the admission of these seven freemen, viz. 1638, (O. S.) we read that "Captain Poole was ordered to exercise the inhabitants of Cohannett in their Armes." (Ply. Col. Rec. XI. p. 31.)³ Some have thought that one of these dates should have been selected

1. This John Strong came to Cohannet from Dorchester and originally from Taunton, England. He was a brother-in-law of Walter Deane, and the father of seventeen children. He remained here only a few years and removed to Northampton.

2. See Appendix F.

3. See Appendix G.

for our celebration. But these facts do not necessarily prove that Cohannet had yet any separate town existence, since all the freemen of the colony, whether residing in incorporated towns or unincorporated precincts, were alike registered as freemen at Plymouth, and were alike entitled to vote as individuals in the affairs of the colony. And not only were the inhabitants of *towns* liable to military duty, but also "all and every person within the colony,"¹ whether in towns or not. Also when John Strong took the oath as constable in December, 1638, it was not as constable of the town of Cohannet, but only of the *ward* of Cohannet; whereas after 1639 the records describe the constable as of the *town* of Taunton.

Unfortunately no positive vote can now be found, expressly incorporating our town; but we soon have an act of the General Court apparently recognizing it as such. Previously to June, 1639, the whole body of freemen assembled at Plymouth several times a year, to regulate the affairs of the Colony; but the many inconveniences and great expense to which the freemen were thus put by continual attendance at the Court, led to a very decided change in the system of legislation, and what had been heretofore a pure and simple democracy became, on the 5th of March, 1638, a true *representative* government.² The same principle had been introduced into the Massachusetts Colony five years earlier. By this law Plymouth was entitled to four "committeemen or deputies" to the General Court, and every other town to two. The first town election occurred soon after, and on the 4th of June following (1639, O. S.) two freemen from Cohannet, viz: John Gilbert and Henry Andrews, took their seats in the General Court at Plymouth as our first representatives, and thus our existence as a sep-

1. See 1 Ply. Col. Rec. p. 22, A. D. 1633.

2. Passed March 5, 1638, O. S. Ply. Col. Rec. Vol. XI, pp. 31-91-169. Appendix H.

arate and independent township—the first inland town in the Old Colony—as was Concord in the Massachusetts Colony—seems to have been officially recognized. In the absence therefore of more positive data, the 4th of June 1639 may not inappropriately be treated as our natal day, and two hundred and fifty years of municipal life have brought us to the present hour.

Probably the early settlers of this region came largely from the southwest of England, for we there find the familiar names of Norton, Dorchester, Weymouth, Wareham, Bridgewater, Plymouth, Barnstable, Somerset, Dartmouth, Berkley, Tiverton, surrounding the English Taunton, much as do their namesakes our own city; and the settlers of Cohannet on March 3, 1639, (O. S.) procured the name to be changed to Taunton, as they themselves say, “in honor and love to our dear and native country.”

The Indian word Cohannett has been said to mean the place of snows, or snow-drifts, a name not inappropriately given, since one of her prominent citizens died during the great snow storm of 1717. “The name Taunton,” says the late Rev. Mr. Brigham, in an interesting paper read before the Old Colony Historical Society, in 1859, “is genuine Gaelic; Taun meaning ‘of the river;’ Taun-town, a town on the river—contracted into Taunton. The proper pronunciation of this word is still a mooted question, whether it is Ton, Tawn, or Tarn. The most common usage justifies the last sound.”

We know approximately the location of the first meeting house, and it would be interesting to know the exact situation of the first dwelling, the first store and the first school house; but probably it is now impossible. It is believed that the first block house or garrison house stood at or near the site of the present Music Hall, on Cohannet

street; and it is tolerably certain that after our fathers had become tired of going on foot to Plymouth or Dorchester for their meal, a grist mill was built about 1652 or 1653, by Thomas Linkon, on the west side of Mill river, between Cohannet and Winthrop streets, which was afterwards owned for many years in the Crosman family, one of whom built the Crosman house still standing near by, which was such a hospitable resort for civil and military officers during our Revolutionary period. Of this prominent family, probably Col. Robert Crosman, and his son Gen. George Hampden Crosman, were the most distinguished, and their many descendants are still among us. This old grist mill remained on the same site until 1823, and the first saw mill was built near it about 1659 by Henry Andrews and John Macomber.¹ This saw mill appears to have been a serious obstruction to the free passage of the herring, for on June 6, 1665, William Witherill and three others were fined twenty shillings for breaking down the saw mill dam so that the ale-wives might go up; and thereupon the owners of the mill were ordered by the General Court to make "a free, full and sufficient passage for the fish before the next season." Thus early did the ale-wives begin to vex our ancestors, and the day of deliverance has not yet come.²

THE FIRST RECORDED MARRIAGE

was on November 8, 1638, between Richard Paul and Margery Turner, the friend of Elizabeth Poole, and to whom in her last will she left a "yearling heifer." The next spring William Hardy and Joanna Hucker, as also Thomas Gilbert and Jane Rossiter, joined hands; and the number speedily following their example indicates that they were not then perplexed with the modern stupid question, "Is marriage a failure?" At that time a marriage was quite an undertak-

1. See Appendix I.

2. See Appendix J.

ing, since both parties must travel to Plymouth and have the ceremony performed by the Governor or one of the magistrates. Ministers were not allowed to solemnize marriages in the colonial days;¹ but ere long special officers were appointed in each town for that purpose; William Parker being the first marriage officer for Taunton. Neither ministers nor justices of the peace were authorized to marry until 1692.² Wedded life, however, was not always smooth sailing then, any more than now; for in 1654 Joanna Miller of Taunton, wife of Obadiah Miller, was complained of for "beating and reviling her husband, and egging her children to healp her, biding them knock him in the head, and wishing his victials might coake him." Mothers-in-law, too, then as now, were not without their troubles, for in 1650 William Shepherd of Taunton was convicted and publicly whipped for purloining from his wife's mother.³ The only redeeming trait we find in this ungrateful son-in-law, was that he had the grace to publicly confess his offence in open court, and return the stolen goods!

THE FIRST BIRTH

is believed to have been that of John Deane, son of the original settler of that name, in the year 1639, and who, as before stated, died during the great snow storm of February 18th, 1717, in the seventy-eighth year of his age: his funeral being delayed for ten days, until the way to the burial ground could be cleared of the snow.

The first death, so far as known, was that of John Bryant, one of the first purchasers, who died April 28, 1638, *and this is the very first event in our history the exact date of which is positively known.* His will was proved at Plymouth June 4th, 1638, being the first Cohannet will on record. Miss Poole was one of the appraisers of his estate (See Ply. Col. Rec. of Wills, Vol. I, p. 30.) He was probably buried

1. See Appendix K. St. 1692, c. 25. 2. 3 Ply. Col. Rec. p. 75. 3. 2 Ply. Col. Rec. p. 149

in the Neck-of-land cemetery on Summer street, as that was the first burial place in town; although no stone can now be found therein older than that of Elizabeth Smith, who died January 31st, 1687; while the Walker burying ground off Somerset avenue, near Dighton, has an older stone erected to Elizabeth Walker, wife of the first James Walker, who died August 14th, 1678, and *her* grave stone has the oldest legible inscription in this town.

The office of town clerk was created in 1646,¹ and the first clerk was Oliver Purchis, and not Shadrach Wilbore, as sometimes supposed. Mr. Wilbore, the ancestor of our excellent Register of Deeds, was not admitted a freeman so early as 1646, whereas Mr. Purchis became such that very year,² and there is no record of the election of Mr. Wilbore as clerk before 1664, at or about which time Mr. Purchis moved to Lynn. Probably each town in its first efforts at self government chose some of its principal freemen, "to order the special affairs thereof," who were called "selected towns men," but the law requiring towns to elect three or five selectmen, "such as shall be approved by the Court," and giving them many judicial powers and duties, was passed in 1665, and the first "Celect Men" under that law, were George Hall, Richard Williams, Walter Dean, James Walker and William Harvey, approved by the General Court, June 5, 1666.³

We all know that Rev. William Hook was the first "pastor," and Rev. Nicholas Street his assistant was "teacher," and afterwards his full successor. Both were eminent men of their time. Mr. Hook's lot was next south of Miss Poole's estate, on what is now Summer street, not unlikely where the City Hall now stands. Mr. Street's house was on corner of Spring and Summer streets, next to Mr. Hook's;

1. See Appendix L.

2. 2 Ply. Col. Rec. p. 101.

3. 1 Ply. Col. Rec. p. 124, Appendix L a.

the bridge over the river, near the A. Field tack works, was called "Street's Bridge." The first meeting house was built as early as 1647, and perhaps earlier, by Henry Andrews, one of the original settlers, and one of the first deputies to the General Court, as before stated. He was paid for the same in 1647 by a grant of land at Namasket Pond, called the Calf pasture.¹ No doubt this house stood at the head of Spring street, on or near the site of the present Unitarian Church, and was the only place of worship for nearly a century; the second house being erected in 1729, and the third in 1789, which was removed for the present attractive edifice in 1830. Probably the first deacons were Richard Williams and Walter Deane; certainly they were such in 1654, in which year Elizabeth Poole died giving the church a legacy of her best cow; and mentioning deacons Richard Williams and Walter Dean as her "overseers." Without depreciating the efforts of others, every citizen of Taunton must realize how much we are indebted for our early position and character in the Old Colony to those worthy families which bore the names of Williams, Dean, Hall, Leonard, Gilbert, Crosman, Lincoln, Walker and Wilbore.

TAUNTON'S IRON WORKS—1656.

We know but little more of these times until 1652, when a very important event occurred in our infant town.

As early as 1643 the manufacture of bar iron, from native or bog ore, had commenced in Lynn, on the Saugus, and not long afterwards in Braintree, on the Monanticut; and the discovery of iron ore on the banks of the Two Mile river in Taunton stimulated our forefathers to attempt the same industry here. Several of the leading citizens of the place, including George Hall, Richard Williams, Walter Deane,

1. See Appendix M.

James Walker, Oliver Purchis, Elizabeth Poole and others formed a joint stock company, with a capital of £600, and built a dam across the Two Mile river, on the main road leading to Raynham, and made all the preparations for the manufacture of bar iron from bog ore. Prominent among them was George Hall, the first clerk and manager of the company for many years, and the first "celectman" of Taunton. He continued to be an influential man in all town affairs until the day of his death. It gives me pleasure to say he was the ancestor of our esteemed, efficient and worthy Mayor and president of the day.

To secure experienced workmen for this new industry, the town voted on the 21st of October, 1652, to invite three workmen from Braintree, viz. Henry Leonard and his brother James, and one Ralph Russell, "to come hither, and join with certain of our inhabitants to set up a Bloomery work on the Two Mile River."¹ At that time no person could become a citizen of any town except by permission of the same. If the above named three persons all came to Taunton, Henry Leonard and Russell did not long remain, for Leonard is known to have resided in Lynn as early as 1665, and Russell's name does not subsequently appear associated with the enterprise. It would seem that James alone remained, for on June 3d, 1655, the town conveyed to him individually about fifteen acres of land on the east side of the Forge Pond on the Bloomery, situated next to the old pond adjoining the road to Raynham. (Ply. Col. Rec. of Deeds, Vol. III, Part 1, p. 47.)

The preparations for this enterprise required some time, and it was not until 1656 that the manufacture of iron actually commenced, and soon afterwards bar iron became a circulating medium in this community in place of money, and so continued for many years. As disaster soon over-

1. See Appendix N.

took the earlier works at Lynn and Braintree, our own may justly be considered *the first permanent successful iron works in this country*.

James Leonard above mentioned was first employed as a forgerman or "bloomer" therein; afterwards he became part owner, and his son Thomas, distinguished in many ways, was a subsequent manager of the works; and for many years the Leonard family were prominently connected with the establishment. In 1777 it passed into the hands of Hon. Josiah Dean, who converted it into a rolling mill and nail works, and also for making copper bolts for shipbuilding, the first manufacture of this kind in this vicinity. It continued in the Dean family for three generations, and in 1825 was changed into an anchor forge, and it is only within a few years, as most of you know, that the foundations have been demolished. These iron works were so much favored by the Government, that in 1655, and again in 1662, the "bloomers" employed therein, were exempted from military duty "unless upon some special occasion of watching that may arise." (3 Ply. Col. Rec. p. 89; 4 Id. 15.)

Other iron works soon followed; one at "Whittington" in operation as early as 1678, by James Leonard, who had left the first works; another about 1695, on Three Mile river near the Dighton line, on or near the present site of the North Dighton Furnace, built by Richard Stephens and others; again in 1696 the "Chartley Iron Works" in the west part of the town, on Stony Brook, by Thomas and James Leonard, afterwards called the Leonard Iron Works; another in 1723-4 on Littleworth Brook at East Taunton by Capt. John King and others, and called "King's Furnace," which made the first iron hollow ware in the Old Colony. This establishment was afterwards converted into a box board mill, and is now owned by Nathan S. Williams.

Miss Poole formerly owned land on this stream, and with her brother William had a grist mill there near King's Furnace, vestiges of which may still be seen. The sixth ancient iron establishment on Mill river, below Reed & Barton's works, was built in 1739-40, by Capt. Zephaniah Leonard, named the "Hopewell Iron Works," a rolling and slitting mill succeeding it about 1776-7.

Still another iron establishment was the Baylies Iron Works on Three Mile river at Westville, built by Messrs. Bollan and Laughton, as early as 1738 or '39, operated awhile by Thomas Baylies, Jr., as iron-master, afterwards owned by his brother Nicholas, from whom it passed to his youngest son, Hodijah, who much enlarged the establishment, and conducted it successfully for many years; in that period making for the frigate "Constitution," an anchor so large as to require ten yoke of cattle for its transportation to tide water at Dighton.

We are indebted for most of the foregoing facts to the indefatigable secretary of the Old Colony Historical Society, who unites in himself the name and the blood of several of our ancient and most distinguished families, John Williams Dean Hall.¹

With such an early education and long experience in the manufacture of iron, it is not strange that it should become a flourishing industry among us, and go on increasing in volume until its present product, including tacks and small nails, exceeds the sum of \$2,000,000 annually.

TAUNTON NORTH PURCHASE—1668.

The first purchase, above spoken of, resembled in shape a rhombus, or diamond like tract, with parallel sides, but no right angles, having its northerly corner or apex near the center of the town of Mansfield. This was called "Cob-

1. See a very interesting article by him, read before the Old Colony Historical Society in 1884, and published in No. 3 of their collections.

bler's Corner," because, as it is said, when Miles Standish and his men ran out the boundary line in 1640, one of them mended or cobbled his shoes at this spot. The extreme southerly point was near the Lakeville line, the easterly corner in the edge of Bridgewater, near Nipenicket Pond, and the westerly angle at the point where Taunton, Dighton and Rehoboth all meet. It was eight miles long on every side, and generally called "The Eight Mile Purchase," or the "Long Square," and contained about sixty-four square miles, or over 40,000 acres.¹

Notwithstanding the extent of this first purchase, our early settlers soon became anxious for more land, especially pasture and meadow land, and in 1640, '43, '63 and '65 various additions were made to the original territory mostly on the southerly side towards Assonet;² but the second *great* addition was made in June, 1668, called the Taunton North Purchase, being the land surrounding the northwesterly end of the old Town, and extending northerly to the Massachusetts Colony line, which is now the southerly line of the towns of Stoughton, Sharon and Foxboro'.

This second purchase was bounded easterly by Bridgewater, southerly by the First Purchase, and westerly by Rehoboth, now Attleboro'.³ The northerly line was twelve miles long, the east and west lines about seven, while the south line was made by the apex of the old town projecting into it. The tract contained about sixty square miles, or thirty-eight thousand acres, and cost one hundred pounds. Dorchester and Taunton were thus made adjoining towns, and so continued for nearly half a century.

TAUNTON SOUTH PURCHASE—1672.

But our ambitious forefathers were not yet satisfied. In less than four years after the North Purchase, they were

1. See Appendix O.

2. See Appendix P.

3. See Appendix Q.

looking with longing eyes to the fertile lands southerly along the banks of the Great river; and after several negotiations, another tract on the west side of the river, described as four miles square, though somewhat more, was bought of King Philip for one hundred and ninety pounds, and eighty-three pounds more was paid for a mortgage on the same tract, previously given by King Philip to the Plymouth Colony and by its Treasurer assigned to the purchasers. This embraced the territory now constituting the town of Dighton, and contained at least sixteen square miles.¹ These several purchases with some subsequent additions towards Assonet Neck, the whole embracing about one hundred and fifty square miles or nearly one hundred thousand acres, (considerably larger than the District of Columbia,) and comprising the present towns of Norton, Easton, Mansfield, Raynham, Dighton and Berkley, constituted the entire township of Taunton until 1711. Therefore we gladly welcome the people of these towns as jointly interested with us in the celebration of this day.

KING PHILIP'S WAR—1675.

But we must hasten on to more stirring events. Thus far peace and prosperity have attended the Colonists' path, but trying times are now before them. King Philip, the most wily and sagacious of his race, becoming restive under the constant advance of the white settlers, resolved upon their extermination. It is an error to suppose that Philip was justified in any degree by encroachments of the white people upon Indian lands. Gov. Josiah Winslow, in a letter of May 1, 1676, says:—"Because some of our people are of a covetous disposition, and the Indians are in their streets (straits) easily prevailed with to part with their lands, we first made a law that none should purchase, or receive of

1. See Appendix R.

gift any land of the Indians, without the knowledge and allowance of our Court, and penalty of a fine of five pounds per acre, for all that should be so bought or obtained. And lest yet they should be streightened, we ordered that Mount Hope, Pocasset, and several other necks of the best land in the Colony (because more suitable and convenient for them) should never be bought out of their hands, or else they would have sold them long since."¹

Doubtless Philip felt that his own race must melt away before the superior intelligence and more regular and industrious habits of the white people. Hostilities were imminent, but mediation was first attempted. In the little church at the head of Spring street on April 10th, 1671, an interview took place between King Philip and three Commissioners from Plymouth, viz: Gov. Prince, Josiah Winslow and Constant Southworth, at which also were three Commissioners from Massachusetts, viz.: William Davis, William Hudson, and Thomas Brattle; sent at the request of the Plymouth Colony to negotiate between the contending parties. King Philip and his men in their war paint came into town by Cohannet street, past the old grist mill to the Green, and all parties adjourned to the meeting house. There the most singular scene took place ever witnessed in this region. "On the one side of the Church," says the historian Barry, "were the English, wearing the distinguishing garb of their day, with solemn faces and close shorn hair; on the other were the Indians in the loose dress of their country, adorned with wampum and all the finery in which savages delight, their long black hair hanging down their back, and their small sunken eyes gleaming like coals of fire." The old church had never seen such a congregation before. Philip, at first denying that he had any hostile intentions, at length admitted that he was collecting arms and

1. Mather's Indian Wars, Postscript, p. 3.

ammunition for an attack upon Taunton and other villages. He was compelled to surrender about seventy guns into the hands of the commissioners, and promised better behavior for the future.¹ But the truce soon failed. The issue was too vital to be settled except by force of arms; and in the long and bloody conflict that ensued, costing over six hundred lives, half a million of dollars, (of which Taunton contributed over three hundred and twenty-seven pounds) and the total or partial destruction of fifty-three towns, Taunton, from its central position was the chosen rendezvous of the troops from Plymouth, Boston and elsewhere. For the same reason it was a constant point of attack by the savages, and several of its dwellings were consumed, and their inmates cruelly butchered; among others John Tisdale, James Phillips, Henry Andrews and Edward Bobit. The danger of the entire destruction of the village was so imminent that the Cape towns actually invited all our people to remove thither until the war was over. This offer was declined by Taunton people in a letter full of thankfulness to their friends, and with a firm reliance upon the Lord God of Hosts, for final deliverance from all their perils.²

As might be expected, the Anglo-Saxon blood soon became dominant; and in August, 1676, twenty men from Taunton, under the guidance of a friendly Indian, attacked a body of the savages at Gardiner's Neck and put them to utter rout; and their squaw-Sachem, Weetamoe, formerly the wife of Alexander, sister-in-law of King Philip, in attempting to swim the Great river, perished in her flight. A few days after, by the death of Philip, and the capture of Annawan by Captain Church at Rehoboth, this sanguinary conflict was terminated and our land had peace.

1. See Appendix S.

2. See Appendix T.

FREE SCHOOLS—1677.

Whatever reason there is for believing that some school had been kept by "Master John Bishop" at the earliest settlement of the town, the year 1677 is memorable for the inauguration of the Free School System in the Old Colony, which, notwithstanding its many imperfections, has doubtless done more than any human agency to improve and elevate the great body of our people. By a law passed that year it was provided that, "In whatever Township consisting of fifty families, or upwards, any meet man shall be obtained to keep a Grammar School, such Township shall allow at least twelve pounds to be raised by rate on all the inhabitants; and the profits of the Cape Fishery shall be distributed to such towns as have such grammar schools, not to exceed five pounds per annum to any one town."¹ No doubt Taunton availed itself of this law, for in 1683 she received three pounds of the Cape Fishery money for her "schoole," then kept by Mr. James Green, who was paid mostly in bar iron; and in 1685 good Parson Shove tells us that "Taunton has eighty scholars on her list, some of whom have entered Latin." We have lived to see in one-seventh of the old town, forty-five hundred scholars, nearly a hundred teachers, and over thirty school houses, representing an estimated value of more than \$300,000, all maintained at an expense of over \$60,000 annually. "Though thy beginning was small, thy latter end hath greatly increased."

TAUNTON'S RESISTANCE TO GOV. ANDROS—1686.

But soon another cloud appeared on our northern border. In 1684 the Massachusetts Charter was falsely declared forfeited; and Gov. Edmund Andros having been appointed Governor over the whole of New England, commenced his arbitrary and tyrannical measures. One of the

1. See Appendix U.

first was to levy a tax of twenty cents on each poll, and one penny in the pound upon all the property in the late Colonies and Provinces. But the people of Taunton replied to him, they did not "feel free to raise money on the inhabitants without their own assent in an assembly."¹ For transmitting this spirited answer to John Usher, the Treasurer, our Town Clerk, Shadrach Wilbore, was fined twenty marks, and imprisoned for three months in Boston and in jail at Bristol. In less than two years from that time Andros was himself on his way to England under arrest to answer for his misdeeds, and Wilbore received from his grateful townsmen one hundred acres of land at Cotley, "in consideration of his imprisonment and suffering."²

TAUNTON SHIP-BUILDING—1700.

In the year 1699, Thomas Coram,³ who had previously come to this country from Dorsetshire, England, bought a tract of land of John Reed on the west side of Taunton river, and established a ship-yard in South Dighton, at or near what is now sometimes called Bragg's ship-yard, being south of the town-landing, near the end of the road leading from Dighton Four Corners to the river, at the place now George A. Shove's homestead, a descendant of the Rev. George Shove, our third minister. Here he built several ships and laid the foundation of that industry which flourished for many years in this vicinity; and although actual ship-building has been discontinued in this town, our shipping interests have so largely increased that Taunton is the owner in whole or in part of over fifty vessels of different kinds, with a combined tonnage said to exceed that of any *coast-wise* shipping list in any other city of New Eng-

1. 3 Palfrey's N. E. p. 535. Revolution Justified, pp. 13, 14.

2. See Appendix V.

3. An interesting paper on "Thomas Coram," by the Hon. Charles A. Reed, of Taunton, may be found in the Old Col. Hist. Soc. Papers, No. 2. A number of Coram's letters are in "The Davis Papers," in the Mass. Hist. Society Library, Boston.

land. It may not be uninteresting in this connection to state, that notwithstanding the general disapproval of lotteries at the present day, even for worthy objects, our pious forefathers frequently resorted to them on special occasions; and in 1760 a law was passed authorizing James Williams, George Williams, Robert Luscomb and John Adam of Taunton and Stephen Burt of Berkley, to establish a lottery for the purpose of raising three hundred and fifty pounds to remove the rocks and shoals from Taunton Great river "between the Ware Bridge and Rocky Point."¹ The first Weir Bridge had been built about 1667, the General Court allowing twelve pounds toward the same out of the public treasury. The lottery was established, and printed tickets were issued, one of which I now have before me. How successful the lottery proved to be in clearing the river may be understood when we know that since that time the general government has spent \$250,000, for the same purpose, besides individual expenditures by parties interested; and these improvements are not yet complete.

INCORPORATION OF NORTON AND OTHER TOWNS—1711-35.

Our history records no other interesting events until about 1710, when a period of twenty-five years witnessed very important changes in our extensive territory. The earliest settlement in the tract afterwards included in the North Purchase, before spoken of, was made in 1669, on the easterly side of Winnecunnet Pond by William Witherell, a prominent man in Taunton, ancestor of the present William D. Witherell of Norton, and justly called the father of that town. The settlement in the pleasant neighborhood around this pond had so increased in 1707 and the people were so remote from the only place of public worship, that in November of that year they sent a petition to the town to

1. See Appendix W.

bound them out a separate precinct, "for the maintainance of a minister," whom they pledged themselves to support. Taunton was not quite ready to assent to this request, assigning to the General Court the ostensible reason that "the generality of the North Purchase are so poor that we ffeare they will not be able to build a meeting house and maintain a preacher." Probably the other reason given in their protest was no less weighty, namely: "that many of *us* are so extream poor, and rates and taxes so high, that we find it hard and difficult to rub along."

Application to the General Court was finally successful, and in 1709 the North Precinct was established, which in 1711 became a new town under the name of Norton, probably an abbreviation of North Town.¹ It included, as is well known, the present territory of Easton and Mansfield, subsequently organized into separate towns, in 1725 and 1771 respectively, the latter being so named by Gov. Hutchinson, in admiration of the eminent Chief Justice of England. The same inconveniences which led the North-folk to take the step above mentioned, also induced the southern part of the town to similar action; and in 1708 about thirty of the dwellers in that region also petitioned for a separate precinct. This caused even more opposition than the other; the town seemingly being anxious lest the petitioners should be exposed to much "difficulty by reason of the Great river that runs through the middle of that desired precinct, which will be difficult to pass in winter by reason that the ice is many times not strong enough to bear, and too hard to break!" An excuse much thinner than the ice itself; for the General Court made short work of it, granted the request of the petitioners, and set out their new precinct as desired; which in 1712 was declared to be a separate town

1. See Appendix X.

under the name of Dighton, so-called from Frances Dighton, a sister-in-law of Gov. Dudley, and wife of the Richard Williams before mentioned.¹

Several other attempts were made to divide the town, but without success until 1731, when the north-easterly portion having become in the language of that day, "competently filled with inhabitants," was incorporated under the name of Raynham.² The fashion of town-division was now at its height, and in 1735 our old town was called upon to part with another section on its southeasterly border; and the new town of Berkley (named for Bishop Berkeley, who had resided a short time at Newport, R. I.) took its place on the flag of the Old Colony. This completes the list of our municipal offspring.³ No other town in the Old Colony can boast of so many daughters. As in an earlier age the Heavenly Saturn is said to have successively thrown off its several bright rings, so in a later day, did this our terrestrial planet, in the first century of her existence, set six new stars in her surrounding firmament, which together constituting one united constellation, this day revolve—harmoniously revolve—around one common centre of interest and attraction. But to follow them in their respective orbits would lead us too far from our present path. They will soon have interesting celebrations of their own.

SETTLEMENT OF NEW TAUNTON—1736.

I take especial pleasure as a son of Vermont in stating the fact known doubtless to many of you, that the first permanent settlement in that state was made by hardy pioneers from this place. In the year 1735 a number of Taunton people petitioned the General Court of Massachusetts to be incorporated as a new town on the Connecticut river. Their request was granted, and a new town was created, under the

1. See Appendix Y. 2. See Appendix Z. 3. See Appendix A. A.

name of Township No. One, or New Taunton. It was about six miles square, on the west bank of the river, a few miles south of Bellows Falls, and is now called Westminster. Among the petitioners are the familiar names of Capt. Joseph Tisdale, James Williams, James Leonard, first, second and third, William Hodges, Joseph Wilbore, Ebenezer Dean, James Walker and others. I have a complete copy of their entire records for the Appendix. On the 14th of January, 1736, they met and organized in the little red school house at the Neck-of-Land, by the choice of Deacon Samuel Sumner as moderator, James Williams as proprietors' clerk, and a committee of allotment, viz. Capt. Joseph Tisdale, Lieut. John Harvey, Ens. Seth Sumner, Mr. Joseph Eddy, Mr. Edmond Andrews and Mr. Ebenezer Dean, to divide and allot the land in tracts of not over fifty acres each. One lot was reserved for the first minister, one for the second, and a third for the school. After expending considerable money in building houses, a saw mill and grist mill, and making other improvements, it was ascertained in 1741, on the re-survey of the boundary line between New Hampshire and Massachusetts, (which latter state had theretofore claimed jurisdiction as far north as Concord, N. H.) that New Taunton was several miles north of the true boundary line, and the grant from Massachusetts therefore invalid. The new settlers thereupon sold out their improvements to other parties who had been authorized by Gov. Benning of New Hampshire to take possession, and in 1742 those who had gone to Vermont returned to Taunton where they lived and died. I have reason, therefore, as a Vermonter to feel a special interest in the town of my adoption.¹

TAUNTON MADE A SHIRE-TOWN—1746.

In the year 1746 another important event occurred bearing largely upon the future interests of Taunton. The

1. See Appendix BB.

town of Bristol, though much smaller than Taunton, had been made the county seat in 1685, when Bristol County was created. Every student of history knows that originally the western boundary of the Plymouth Colony, and so of Bristol County, was the Narragansett Bay; and that for many years Bristol, Warren, Barrington, and other neighboring towns, were a part of Massachusetts, and sent representatives to our General Court in Boston; but by decree of the king and council in 1746 (a very unjust one, in my opinion) the boundary line was so run that those towns fell to Rhode Island, and our jurisdiction over them ceased. Bristol, having heretofore been the county seat, all the courts had been held there, and the records of deeds and wills were there also. It became necessary to choose another shire-town; and the central location as well as the relative importance of Taunton rendered its selection natural and easy, a choice which should have been made when the county was established. Accordingly an act was passed, creating Taunton a shire-town, and all books and papers in Bristol were brought here, and the first County Court, or Inferior Court of Common Pleas, was held here December 9, 1746. This event made Taunton the legal centre of the county, a position that had much to do with her future prosperity.¹ The first Court House was built about 1747, Taunton contributing nearly one thousand pounds towards its erection. It stood a little southwest of the present building, until 1772, when it was succeeded by another, forty feet square, and twenty-four feet high, which in 1827, being found inadequate, was removed northward down Cobb's Lane, now Court street, and converted into a tenement house. The present respectable edifice, erected in the same year, even now requires enlargement. The first jail was built in 1747, at a cost of about \$3,000, on the site of the Bristol County

1. See Appendix CC.

Bank building, and during the erection of it the school house was "impressed" for jail purposes. This first jail was used in 1775 for the confinement of "prisoners of war" by order of the council.¹ The present one, erected in 1873 at a cost of about \$160,000, is known as one of the model jails in the Commonwealth, and under the present management might sometimes be taken by the passer-by for a first-class conservatory, and always as a most inviting home for honest and gentle folk, of whatever degree!

TAUNTON IN THE REVOLUTION—1776.

But time rolls on. Mighty events are fast approaching; events involving the existence of a nation, and the destinies of a world. The oppressive measures of England had become unendurable; Lord North controlled the British policy; the Stamp Act had passed; Writs of Assistance had issued; the streets of Boston swarmed with foreign soldiery; the Boston Massacre had taken place; Crispus Attucks had fallen; the Boston Port Bill had become a law. These cruel and vindictive measures aroused the indignation of our people. Committees of safety were everywhere appointed; minute men were organizing companies; beacon fires were burning on every hill-top; and the spirit of resistance was kindling into an irresistible flame. In these stirring events Taunton was not backward; indeed she was among the foremost. The same spirit which led her fathers, a century before, to refuse obedience to the arbitrary acts of Governor Andros, inspired the breasts of their descendants.

Long before the Declaration of Independence, long before the burning words of Patrick Henry; before Putnam had left his plow in its Connecticut furrow, or Washington taken command of the American army; before the march to Lexington, or the fall of Ticonderoga, the citizens of Taun-

1. See Appendix DD.

ton, with prophetic eye, foresaw the real issues involved in the coming conflict, and as early as October, 1774, unfurled their banner to the breeze on Taunton Green, bearing those inspiring words, "Liberty and Union; Union and Liberty."¹

The uprising in this vicinity became so great that Governor Gage deemed an armed force necessary to keep the people in subjection, and at his request, Col. Gilbert, a notorious Tory of Freetown, raised a body of three hundred men to overawe the friends of Liberty. These proceedings produced intense indignation, and Col. Gilbert was denounced as "an enemy to his country, to reason, to justice and to the common rights of mankind;" and it was declared that "whoever had knowingly espoused his cause, or taken up arms for his support, does, in common with himself, deserve to be instantly cut off from the benefit of commerce with, or countenance of, any friend of virtue, America, or of the human race." Such was the spirit of Bristol county, says one of the Boston papers of that day, "that it is more dangerous to be a Tory at Taunton, than in Boston itself."²

On the 28th of September, 1774, a spirited county convention was held at the old Court House in this town, at which Zephaniah Leonard, Esq., (afterwards Judge of the Common Pleas) was chairman, and Dr. David Cobb, clerk. Patriotic resolutions were unanimously adopted, declaring that they were "determined at the risk of their fortunes and their lives, to defend their natural and compacted rights, and to oppose to the utmost all illegal and unconstitutional measures, which have been or may be hereafter adopted by a British Parliament or a British ministry."³ Thus early were the yeomen of this vicinity preparing the way for the full declaration of American Independence.

1. Frothingham's Life of Warren, p. 403.

2. See Appendix EE.

3. See Appendix FF.

The news of the battle of Lexington reached Taunton on the evening of April 19th, 1775. That very night both of the Taunton companies, one commanded by Capt. James Williams, Jr., the other by Capt. Robert Crosman, rallied in full force, and led by Col. Nathaniel Leonard, succeeded by rapid night marches in reporting for duty in Roxbury early on the following morning.¹ From that day Taunton was all alive. Within four days another company of sixty men was organized, and went into active service under Captain Oliver Soper, on the 24th of the same month. On the 3d of July the town appointed a committee of Inspection and Correspondence,² consisting of twenty-one of her most active patriots: such men as George Godfrey, Nicholas Baylies, George Williams, Dr. David Cobb and Josiah Crocker, son of the sixth minister, and father of Hon. Samuel Crocker. A complete record of the proceedings of this committee has been happily preserved among the Godfrey papers in the hands of that zealous antiquary, Deacon Edgar H. Reed. One of their first acts was to seize the estate and effects of Daniel Leonard, who, over the signature of Massachusettensis, had written the most plausible articles ever put forth in support of the Royalist cause, and which were for a long time attributed to Attorney-General Sewall.

In 1776, nearly one hundred citizens of this town headed by John Godfrey, signed a solemn league and covenant, (the original of which is still preserved) "not to aid or assist the British forces, or supply them with provisions, or stores, or give them any information, but on the contrary, according to their best power and abilities, to defend by arms the American colonies against every hostile attempt of the fleets and armies of Great Britain."³

Taunton also furnished the colonel for a new regiment of Bristol County, and a brigadier general for a new brigade

1. See Appendix FF a. 2. See Appendix GG. 3. See Appendix HH.

of four regiments, viz. Col. George Williams, and Brig. Gen. Godfrey, who became a very prominent figure in our Revolutionary period. Two more companies were also raised in '78 and '79, for different periods of service.¹ When we remember that Taunton then had only about three thousand souls, we can justly claim that she did her full part in the Revolutionary struggle. Her contribution to the main body of the army would entitle her to this meed of praise; but what other town in the Commonwealth, nay, in the entire country—had the honor—the imperishable honor—of furnishing not only two of the most trusted members of General Washington's staff, but also one of the foremost signers of the Declaration of Independence!

Nicholas Baylies, a member of the Committee of Safety, before spoken of, and so prominent in our town during the Revolutionary period, was the father of Hon. Hodijah Baylies, the favorite aide-de-camp of Gen. Lincoln, whose daughter he afterwards married. Subsequently he became the friend and aide of Washington, serving under him at the siege of Yorktown. He was a man of polished manners and martial bearing, "an officer with all the elegance of the British generals, without any of their vices." After the war he became a faithful, accurate and accommodating Collector of Customs, and a most acceptable Judge of Probate for a quarter of a century. It is unnecessary to remind this audience that he was the father of our late esteemed and beloved townsman, Mr. Edmund Baylies, who so gracefully wore that highest of all earthly titles, "a Christian gentleman," and who but recently came to his grave "in a full age, like as a shock of corn cometh in in its season."

No doubt the patriotic sentiment of Taunton and vicinity was largely molded by Robert Treat Paine, who had married the sister of General Cobb, and at the time of the

1. See Appendix II.

Revolution was about forty-five years old. His house was on the east side of City Square, on or near the site of the Taunton National Bank. He had conducted the prosecution against the British soldiers for the Boston Massacre, had warmly espoused the side of the colonists, was delegate from Taunton to the General Assembly of Massachusetts in '73 and '74, to the Provincial Congress of '74 and '75, and to the Continental Congress which succeeded it, and was one of the fifty-six who, in that "diploma of immortality," pledged their lives, their fortunes and their sacred honor for their country's independence. Subsequently he became Speaker of our House of Representatives, Attorney General, State Councillor, and finally Judge of the Supreme Court. He was a man of great legal attainments, a brilliant wit, an excellent scholar, an able and impartial judge, a devoted patriot. His philanthropic descendant, the embodiment of all "Associated Charities," worthily bears his honored name.

On the other hand Daniel Leonard, then about thirty-five years of age, although born of the best blood of the Old Colony, educated in her highest institutions, gifted with remarkable powers as a writer, lawyer and orator, and for several years our chosen, popular and trusted representative in the General Court, in an evil hour deserted his former friends and embraced the Tory cause. His house, (now standing just east of the Court House) was assailed by his indignant fellow-citizens, and he fled to Boston to join the enemies of his country. For this he was soon banished from the Commonwealth, his property was confiscated, and he died in exile in a foreign land, shunned and despised by his former townsmen and by every true lover of his country. He left no descendants in America. Of these two contemporaries, the name of the one is ever mentioned with honor and respect, that of the other is almost forgotten. "The

memory of the just is blessed, but the name of the wicked shall rot."

I have spoken thus particularly of two prominent lawyers in our Revolutionary period, but these are not all. Of the long roll of able counsellors and judges, who at some time resided in Taunton, what more shall I say? Time would fail me to tell of Samuel White, the first Taunton lawyer, and his grandson, Francis Baylies, of George Leonard, of Samuel Fales and Seth Padelford, of Seth Williams, of Samuel Sumner Wilde, of Nicholas Tillinghast, of Marcus Morton, father and son, nay, three sons, of John Mason Williams and Pliny Merrick, of Theophilus Parsons, Harrison Gray Otis Colby, of Chester Isham Reed and others; governors and lieut. governors, justices and chief justices of every court in this Commonwealth. What wonder therefore, with such a record before me, that I should have been induced, forty years since, to leave the land of my birth, and to say unto this place, henceforth "thy people shall be my people, and thy God my God."

TAUNTON IN SHAYS' REBELLION—1786.

The war of the Revolution was over; but it left the colonists completely exhausted. The expenses incurred in carrying it on were enormous; taxes were burdensome; public and private indebtedness overwhelming. The currency was sadly depreciated; trade uncertain; and the avenues of industry were closed. Corn was £15 a bushel; board £52 a week; wood £40 a cord.¹ Every silver dollar was worth seventy-five paper dollars;² landed property was worthless, and starvation stared many in the face. An uprising of discontent took place in many counties, Bristol among the rest. Collection suits were so obnoxious that courts were the special object of attack. At the September term of the Common Pleas in this town, the Court House was

1. Atwood's *Reminiscences*, p. 55.

2. See Appendix JJ.

threatened by an armed mob, demanding that the court should not be held. Gen. Cobb, then one of the justices of that court, in answer to these threats, uttered, according to tradition, these memorable words, so familiar to every Taunton ear, and which have passed into history: "Away with your whining; I will hold this court if I hold it in blood; I will sit as a judge, or die as a general." Awed by his resolute spirit, the crowd dispersed; but the spirit of insubordination was not yet quelled; the western counties were soon in open rebellion, and the October term of the Supreme Court was approaching. Apprehending a second demonstration, Gen. Cobb, on the Sunday evening previous, took possession of the Court House with a small body of volunteers from this town, and one field piece, still in existence among us. The court opened its session on Tuesday morning and on Wednesday the insurgents again appeared to the number of about two hundred, and armed with English muskets put themselves in battle array under Col. Valentine of Freetown. Gen. Cobb drew up the militia, numbering about four hundred and planted his loaded cannon. To the demand that the court papers be delivered up or destroyed, Gen. Cobb, it is said, drew a line with his sword on the ground and shouted to the rebel leader, "If you want these papers, come and take them; but pass that line and I fire; and your blood be on your own head." The insurgents were cowed and fled in dismay, and armed resistance to the law of the land in Bristol county ceased. It is to the credit of Raynham that it sent more men to put down this insurrection than any other town in the county; two full companies from that place having promptly responded to Gen. Cobb's call.

General Cobb, though born in Attleboro', came to Taunton at an early age. A graduate of Harvard in 1766, when under sixteen, educated in her medical school, a physician of only twenty-seven when Independence was declared, he threw himself heartily into the contest, and with his brother-in-law, Robert Treat Paine, was representative to the General Court in October, 1774. He was appointed Lieut. Col. of the 16th Massachusetts Regiment; then became the aide and intimate friend of Washington, and after the return of peace was repeatedly honored by his native state. Speaker of her House of Representatives, President of her Senate, Councillor to her Governor, Lieut. Governor himself, Maj. General of her militia, Chief Justice of one of her courts, what more could he be except her representative in the Federal Congress of 1773-5. Notwithstanding his busy public life he still had time to look after the interests and welfare of his own townsmen, and was so active in procuring the establishment of the Bristol Academy in 1793, as to have received from the trustees the title of its "patron and founder." Take him all in all he was one of the most distinguished men the times produced. His versatility of talent was remarkable. A sagacious physician, an intrepid soldier, an honest politician, an unselfish statesman, a safe councillor, a discreet judge, an earnest patriot. Well did Massachusetts honor itself in directing that his portrait be hung on the walls of her Senate Chamber as an inspiration to the generations to come after him! Well do we honor ourselves in inviting his only living male descendant to be present on this occasion.¹

DIVISION OF CHURCHES—1792.

For more than a century and a half there was only one Congregational church and society in the entire town, in-

1. Hon. Samuel Crocker Cobb, former Mayor of Boston.

stead of the forty now to be found on the same territory. During that period, in addition to the learned, holy, humble William Hook, and the pious, judicious and modest Nicholas Street, before spoken of, I may not omit to allude to George Shove, whom Sewall calls a "principal light in these parts," and who after twenty-two years spent in promoting both the spiritual and material interests of Taunton, died on Thursday, April 21, 1687, in a good old age; also, to the learned, affectionate and popular Samuel Danforth, who resided at the corner of Washington and Park streets, and who was a useful physician and a respectable lawyer as well as a pastor and whose death on Nov. 14, 1727, after forty years of faithful service, was declared to be an "awful and threatening stroke of Providence," and whose remains now repose in yonder Plain cemetery; next, to the hospitable Thomas Clap, son-in-law of Judge George Leonard, of Norton, whose house was that now occupied by Capt. Gordon on Dean street. Still less can I overlook that eloquent and persuasive preacher, Josiah Crocker, whose powers drew many from a great distance to hear him, and who lived in the old parsonage on Barnum street, until August 28, 1774; from whence he also was borne to his resting place, in the same cemetery; and whose public spirited descendants, so long prominent in public affairs, have in many ways left so lasting an impress on this place. He was succeeded by that fearless christian patriot, Caleb Barnum, whose house stood on the site of the late Mr. Dunbar's apothecary store, on the south side of City Square, and who at the early age of thirty-nine gave up his life in the service of his country as chaplain to the 24th Regiment in our Revolutionary war, declaring on his deathbed, that had he a thousand lives he would willingly lay them all down in his country's cause. I may also refer to the acute, out-spoken, and often eccentric

Ephraim Judson, whose house was south of St. Thomas' church, near the Wheaton house, and who used to caution the boys not to make so much noise in the gallery, lest they wake up the old folks down below; to the sometimes sublime and oftentimes imprudent preacher, John Foster; and later still, to the benevolent, affectionate and beloved John Pipon, who never married, because his salary, as he said, could not "carry double," but who, notwithstanding, kept open house at the corner of High and Hill streets, where Mr. A. E. Swasey now resides.

In the latter part of the 18th century, under the administration of the Rev. Mr. Judson, a division of sentiment began to arise in the church, which upon the settlement of Mr. Foster as Mr. Judson's successor, in 1792, culminated in the withdrawal of a majority of the church members, and the organization of a new society in the west part of the town, which, after worshipping some years in temporary places, finally under the faithful guidance of the Rev. Alvan Cobb, eminent for his theological and biblical learning, erected in 1824 the church now standing at Westville, which is thought to be the oldest existing church edifice in town. This society is believed to have established the first Sunday School in Bristol County.

Three years previously, viz. in August, 1821, the third Congregational church had been organized at the Green, of which Rev. Chester Isham was the first pastor, succeeded by the Rev. Erastus Maltby, under whose long and faithful ministration the church increased to such an extent as to furnish material for a fourth society, which was organized in 1837 as the Spring street church, now the Winslow church on Cohannet street, and over which our beloved and esteemed chaplain was the first pastor, succeeded by the Rev. Dr. Blake, whose loss to this town cannot easily be

estimated. Still again in 1853, another society of the same denomination was organized in East Taunton, and later still in 1868 the Union Congregational church at Britanniaville was added to the list.

As early as 1741 a Protestant Episcopal church was organized under the name of St. Thomas, which worshipped awhile at the west part of the town, but was practically suspended from 1798 until 1829, when it was re-organized in the centre of the town, and now worships in its stone church on High street, which in its present condition cost about \$70,000. The Hon. Marcus Morton and the Hon. Francis Baylies were its first wardens after its re-establishment. This society never realized the benefit of the gift intended by Thomas Coram for the future Episcopalians of Taunton, in his deed of fifty-five acres, made December 28, 1703, to the vestry of King's Chapel, in trust, for they sold the land to Stephen Burt in 1754 for one hundred pounds, and appropriated the whole for building the present King's Chapel on Tremont street, Boston! It should have gone into a "Coram Tower" at the south-east corner of the church. His subsequent gift of a library and Book of Common Prayer shared a better fate. A second parish of the same denomination was organized at Whittenton in 1866 as St. John's church, with the Rev. Geo. D. Miles its first rector, whose catholic spirit and amiable character will not soon be forgotten in this community.

The first Free-will Baptist church was in North Taunton, and its first meeting house was erected in 1767, the present one succeeding it about 1836. A Six Principles Baptist church was organized in 1789, in North Rehoboth and West Taunton, but which has long ceased to exist. In 1819 was organized the "Second Baptist church in Taunton" on Winthrop street, the name of which was afterwards

changed to Winthrop Street Baptist church, and which has become such a power among us. A Christian Baptist church also existed for a while on Trescott street, but this society has for sometime been disbanded. The first Methodist Episcopal church at the Weir, was established in 1830, now one of the largest and most influential in that denomination. The second—the Central Methodist Episcopal church, on Cohannet street—was organized in 1853, and the third—Grace church, corner of Weir street and Somerset avenue—in 1874.

After several acts incorporating a Universalist society in town, the present society was established in 1840, our worthy townsman, Mr. Charles Foster, who still goes in and out among us, being one of the most active members. After worshipping awhile in the Town Hall, it moved to Spring street, and in 1842 erected a new church at the corner of High and Spring streets, which in turn gave way in 1876 to the present convenient and larger building on the same site. The first Roman Catholic church, St. Mary's, was erected in 1831, succeeded by the present substantial and commodious stone edifice in 1854. From this central church has sprung the flourishing parish of the Sacred Heart at the Weir, the Church of the Holy Family at East Taunton, and the French church of the Immaculate Conception at Whittenton, the whole ministering to the wants of over seven thousand souls. The latest addition to our list is the Presbyterian society, which has just erected a fine stone house of worship on Washington street. These and some others, including the Advent Christian church, the chapel at Oakland, and that on Arlington and School streets, show a growth in our means and conveniences for religious culture quite equal to the development in our material and secular interests, and also demonstrate how easy it is for brethren of different

religious names to dwell together in peace and unity. But amid all these successive additions to our churches and religious societies, the old mother church still lives, and embosomed in her emerald setting—never more attractive than on this day—she grows not dim with age, but on the contrary has just renewed her youth like the eagle, as if determined still to be called, as heretofore, “The First Congregational Society in Taunton.”

TAUNTON'S PROGRESS FROM 1800 TO 1860.

In the orderly development of our subject we have now reached the present century, at the opening of which Taunton had a population of only 3,860. Her principal manufactures at that time were about three millions of brick, and iron ware of different kinds, to nearly 1,500 tons annually.¹ Her growth during the first decade was hardly perceptible, gaining only about fifty inhabitants in the entire time, if we may trust the reported census.

Her first mill for making cotton-goods,—the old Green Mill so-called,—was erected in 1806 on Weir street, near the bridge, largely by the enterprise of Capt. Silas Shepard who had a short time before moved here from Wrentham. Mr. Jesse Hartshorn, so long an admitted authority in that industry, was the expert practical assistant in this mill. The Dean Cotton mill at Barehole, for making cotton yarn, was organized soon after, a former superintendent of which Mr. Robert S. Dean, still goes in and out among us.² Then came the war of 1812, for which, though deeming it unwise and unnecessary, Taunton furnished three separate companies, mostly for coast guard duty, under Captains Silas Shepard, Seth Staples and Joseph Reed. This was her full quota of the 14,000 men raised by Massachusetts.

1. See Appendix KK.

2. Since delivering, deceased in his 85th year.

Soon after the return of peace, Taunton began to show signs of a new life, and the next fifty years exhibit a marked advance in her industrial enterprises, and permanently established her character as a great and successful manufacturing centre. Among her leading undertakings in that period we may especially note one great enterprise of those energetic business men, Messrs. Crocker and Richmond, who for many years swayed a powerful sceptre over every branch of industry in this town; we mean, The Taunton Manufacturing Company of 1823. Stretching, with its immense plant from Morey's Bridge to Weir street, it included therein the extensive Calico Print Works, the first in this country, the old Brick Mill on Washington street, the Hopewell Mills above, and also the original Whittenton Mill, parent of that magnificent establishment, the consummate management of which, with its fifteen hundred employes, has made it at once our boast and our pride. We may mention also the Oakland Mills of Capt. Shepard in 1827, the first canton flannel factory in this vicinity, if not in the Commonwealth; the extensive works of A. Field & Sons, and of the Taunton Tack Company, whose humble carpet tacks introduce our name into the palaces of presidents and princes, and whose united product exceeds that of any other place in the known world; the splendid establishment of Reed & Barton, the successor of the first enterprise of the kind in America, which has done so much for our reputation at home and abroad, and whose elegant silver ware snatches the prize from every competitor at the exhibitions of all nations; the Old Colony Iron Company of 1844, which through a long and prosperous career constituted with its five hundred hands the life and soul of East Taunton, in striking contrast with its present forlorn and deserted appearance; the Phoenix Manufacturing Company for the

manufacture of crucibles, the first of the kind in New England, and one of the first in this country, which has had the confidence and the contracts of our government for over half a century; dividing in that time nearly \$200,000 on a capital stock of only \$30,000; the Taunton Locomotive Manufacturing Company, one of the first establishments in the United States erected solely for the manufacture of locomotives, and whose thousand engines, by their careful construction and efficient and economical working, have acquired a high reputation throughout the country; the Copper Manufacturing Company of Crocker Brothers & Company, so long a brilliant and successful enterprise in our town, whose yellow sheathing metal, the first made in this country, has protected many a noble bark, as she threaded her way amid "the dazzling glitter and the thundering crash of the icy ocean, or ploughed up the phosphoric light of the tropic seas." Finally, we refer to the Mason Machine Works of 1845, in all its vastness, the product of whose cotton machinery hums her praise in every manufacturing district in our land; whose swift-winged locomotives herald her taste and skill as they traverse the earth from California's Golden Gate to the spicy shores of Araby the Blest; whose perfected printing presses already proclaim the glad tidings to the inhabitants of South America, the Zulus of South Africa, and to the far-off natives of Australia, and soon, in connection with those made by the Locomotive Company, to reach and enlighten all nations and kindreds and peoples and tongues from "Greenland's icy mountains" to "India's coral strand."

These and many other business enterprises, nearly two hundred in number, the bare enumeration of which would exhaust your patience, coupled with the fact that all our banks (except the new Savings Bank) first opened their

doors during the first half of this century, abundantly prove that notwithstanding an occasional reverse, and even an occasional failure, these were the halcyon days of Taunton's prosperity, the impulse of which sent our population bounding up from about 7,000 in 1840 to over 15,000 in 1860, and our rateable valuation from about \$2,000,000 to nearly \$8,000,000 in the same period.¹ But our prosperity was now to receive a check, before which all other disasters sink into insignificance. Suddenly our country found itself in the throes of a second birth, and all our cares, all our thoughts, and all our prayers were needed for her preservation.

TAUNTON IN THE REBELLION—1861-'65.

Governor Andrews' order, under the President's call for seventy-five thousand men, reached Taunton on the morning of April 16, 1861. It found her lamps trimmed and burning. Fortunately the Taunton Light Guard, Co. G, had been organized six years earlier, and before eleven o'clock of that day were on their march, armed and equipped under Captain Timothy Gordon, for the appointed rendezvous, the "Cradle of Liberty in Boston." It is to the lasting credit of Captain John H. Church, of this town, that upon hearing his country's call, he instantly resigned his business situation and before eight o'clock that morning, had enlisted in Company G, for the war; so far as known, the first volunteer in the Commonwealth, if not in the country. Others may have felt bound by marching orders; some may have gone as paid substitutes; but Mr. Church of his own free will, unbidden by any superior, untempted by gold, unattracted even by the homage paid to military office, left home, kindred and friends, to join, *as a private*, the ranks of an expedition, the perils of which no man knew. Was ever purer patriotism than this? Mr. James M. Cushman, also of this

1. See Appendix LL.

town, enlisted but a few minutes after Mr. Church, and is entitled to like praise; *par nobile fratrum*.

The Light Guard, numbering fifty-eight officers and men, left Fall River, April 17th, on the steamer State of Maine, and at early dawn of the 20th, the first moment the stars and stripes could be seen floating from the flag-staff of the Fort, and on the same month, the same day, and almost the same hour at which its predecessors marched into Roxbury the morning after the battle of Lexington, did this, our first contribution to the war, land at Fortress Monroe, thus entitling itself to the universally admitted honor of being the first northern company, and its commander the first northern captain, to set foot on rebel soil. It was also one of the first to be mustered into the nation's service, the Washington Light Infantry having preceded it by a few days only. Its timely arrival no doubt saved Fortress Monroe to the Union cause; an event, the importance of which can hardly be over estimated. This company had the honor of being in the first field fight of the war, at Big Bethel, which might have resulted quite differently had they been properly supported on the left and centre. The Light Guard not only did faithful duty in its three months' service in Virginia, but became a nursery of commanding officers, who made an excellent record throughout the war; over a score of its members having risen to rank in other organizations; among them Lieutenant Colonels Mason W. Burt and Willard D. Tripp, Major Brown, and numerous captains and other officers, many of whom are happily with us this day; one at least, with his honorable scars, and without whom our city treasury could not well be: Capt. George A. Washburn. Another captain there was, universally acknowledged to be a brave soldier, an exemplary comrade, a christian patriot, who was last seen on earth at the head of his advancing

column, and "the place of whose sepulchre no man knoweth unto this day." Inspired was he, inspired were they all, by that lofty motto inscribed on their colors by their first commander, "Fidelity to Duty, whenever it may call, wherever it may lead."

For the next four years what trials, what sacrifices, what anxieties, what sorrows, what alternations of hope and despair, was our good city called upon to endure. Her streets became recruiting stations, and her fields camping grounds. Fortunate was it for us that there then resided here a graduate of West Point, who had done gallant service in the Mexican and Seminole wars, and who by his knowledge of military tactics enabled us to send forth one of the best equipped and best drilled regiments in the volunteer service. The 7th Regiment by its conduct on many a well fought field, reflected the highest credit on itself and its fearless commander, who by his merit and bravery rapidly rose from a colonel to a brigadier, and thence to a major-general, taking part in many desperate encounters, and on one occasion called to assume command of the entire army of the Potomac; afterwards entrusted with the Department of the Susquehanna, and later still with a division in the 23d Army Corps at Nashville and the subsequent operations in North Carolina; on all occasions conducting himself so well as to receive the approbation of President Lincoln, and a complimentary banquet from his appreciative townsmen. Need I speak his name? Major-General D. N. Couch.

Through those long sad years Taunton constantly showed her devotion, not only by steadily pouring her treasury into the nation's lap, but by sending forth, with their life in their hands, more than half her fighting men, and more than one-tenth of her entire population, including men,

women and children.¹ How well they bore their part in that awful conflict, let Antietam, the Wilderness, Gaines' Mills, Fredericksburg Heights, nay, nay, let Port Hudson answer. Behold yonder memorial tablet, and through the mist that gathers in each eye, read as best you may its sad answer. George C. Ruby, Isaac Dean Paul, William H. Bartlett, and all ye who likewise fell, face toward the foe, Heroic Souls, I pray you answer! Spirits of the Departed, where are ye? Where *are* ye?

"How sleep the Brave, who sink to rest,
By all their country's wishes blest!
When Spring, with dewy fingers cold,
Returns to deck their hallowed mold,
She there shall dress a sweeter sod,
Than Fancy's feet have ever trod.

"By fairy hands their knell is rung,
By forms unseen their dirge is sung;
There Honor comes, a pilgrim gray,
To bless the turf that wraps their clay;
And Freedom shall awhile repair,
To dwell, a weeping hermit, there."

TAUNTON AS A CITY—1865.

No doubt a town government is the simplest and purest democracy; but beyond a certain limit it proves impracticable. And as our fathers found a representative system necessary in the *State*, so does every populous town, in its own local government. It has its evils certainly, at present apparently unavoidable, but every well governed city will seek to reduce them to the minimum. This impossibility of deliberately managing public affairs by the voters of a large town became so evident here, as it had elsewhere, that in the year 1864 our citizens with as much unanimity as could reasonably be expected under the circumstances, voted to adopt

1. Taunton and her citizens raised about \$200,000 for the war. Her population in 1860 was 15,376, and she furnished for the army and navy 1652 men, not including her sons who enlisted from other towns in this and other states, which would swell the number to nearly two thousand men.

a city charter, which went into full operation on the 2d of January, 1865; and Taunton was thus enrolled as the thirteenth city in the Commonwealth. In my opinion it was a favorable time to consider the expediency of resuming her original name of Cohannet, but of this I may not be the best judge.

The influence of a new municipal organization soon manifested itself in more orderly and systematic methods of business; in a more efficient police; a better equipped fire department; an increased expenditure for schools; in a free public library, now containing about 30,000 volumes; and later still in our efficient system of water works, so largely due to the energetic efforts of our then Senator, the Hon. William C. Lovering. From 1864 to the present time her industrial interests and prosperity, with some intermediate checks, have continued to advance, until she now has a population estimated at over 26,000, and a valuation of nearly \$19,000,000. With her varied industries, her advantageous position at the head of tide water, her well equipped schools, her numerous churches, her many charitable and benevolent institutions for the aged and infirm in mind and body, for which we owe so much to a lady's recent munificence,¹ what is to prevent, if we are true to ourselves, a steady increasing prosperity for the future?

Every thoughtful person will inquire whether our moral and intellectual advance is keeping pace with the growth of our material and industrial interests. As our "silver and gold is multiplied, and all that we have is multiplied," have we correspondingly increased our faith, our sincerity, our love of truth, temperance and purity of heart? Is our moral fibre stronger, our obedience to the voice of conscience

1. The Morton Hospital, presented by Mrs. Susan Tillinghast (Morton) Kimball, of Boston.

quicker, our faith in eternal verities firmer than that of our Pilgrim sires? Nay, are we in all respects holding our own? But with our increased advantages, our more general intellectual culture, our marvelous progress in arts, science and manufactures, our better understanding of the laws of nature, our more general possession of useful knowledge, our greater freedom of thought and action, our increased resources for a broader and higher development in every department of life, why should we be content with even what our fathers possessed? Forgetting those things which are behind, why not reach forth to those which are before?

“New occasions teach new duties; Time makes ancient good uncouth,
They must upward still and onward, who would keep abreast of truth.
Lo, before us gleam her camp-fires; We ourselves must pilgrims be,
Launch *our* Mayflower, and boldly steer through the desperate winter sea,
Nor attempt the Future’s portal, with the Past’s blood-rusted key.”

FINALLY.

If we would elevate our city into that position in the Commonwealth which her situation and advantages fairly warrant; if we would retain our active and enterprising young men at home; and attract intelligent and public spirited citizens from abroad; if we would promote the highest welfare of our busy people in their numerous and varied industries; if we would ever feel a just pride in our Taunton citizenship, and hear her name everywhere uttered with honor and respect, we should not only cultivate and develop our business and industrial interests, but elevate and advance our moral, intellectual and social culture to the highest possible standard, and especially strive “that all things may be so ordered and settled by our endeavors upon the best and surest foundations, that peace and happiness, truth and justice, religion and piety may be established among us for all generations.” Then shall our “sons grow up like

young plants, our daughters be as the polished corners of the temple; then shall our garners be full and plenteous with all manner of store, our oxen be strong to labor, and our flocks bring forth thousands and ten thousands in our fields. Then shall there be no more hostile invasions, no more going forth to war, and no complaining about our streets. Happy, happy are the people that are in such a case! YEA, BLESSED IS THAT PEOPLE WHOSE GOD IS THE LORD!"

At the conclusion of the Historical Address, which without the appendixes, occupied two hours in its delivery and was listened to by the audience with the closest attention; the "Star Spangled Banner," was sung by Mrs. Cora E. Rhodes, assisted by the chorus and orchestra, after which the poet of the day, Henry W. Colby, Esq., delivered the following:—

1639. POEM. 1889.

A staunch old proverb in parental tone
 Sagely remarks—"Let well enough alone;"
 The tale is told—and fitly told; what need
 That I, whose tribute must be weak indeed,
 Should dim, by thoughts whose lightness might profane,
 The charm these reminiscent hours contain?
 But Fashion, with its many curious laws,
 Writes in its code an after-dinner clause,
 And this provides that though profuse the feast,
 Yet shall the list of viands be increased
 By adding superfluities thereto,
 To tempt the pampered appetite anew;

Thus was I summoned to this bounteous spread,
Whose guests already have been overfed,
Upon the chance presumption—we will say—
That I might have some dainty stored away:
And as the Jester at the kingly court,
Must needs contribute to the festive sport,
Though airy chaff and jokes but feebly made,
May be, perchance, his only stock in trade,
So I, though neither king nor lord decree,
Will all too gladly seal my loyalty,
And, minus cap and bells, will forge and cast
My link to chain the Present with the Past.
Two centuries and a half have bottled up
The wine we pour to-day from memory's cup,
And who may censure if the overflow
Should swamp some champion's wit and lay him low?
What would your ideal Yankee be without
His proud prerogative to sing and shout?
Deal gently, then, with every awkward slip,
If, in exuberance, the Muse should trip,
And while it labors for the public weal,
Forget its follies and applaud its zeal.

What mines of thought they delve who backward reach
Two cycles and a half, a century each!
Even the years one human life can span,
Have almost seemed to change Creation's plan—
So full our world, so barren must have been
The fields in which our sires were wont to glean.
Trouble and hardship, danger and distress
Haunted the old Colonial wilderness,
And rose the morning sun from day to day,

Upon a bleak and almost cheerless way.
Existence was no pastime played in bowers
Of Fancy's framing decked with Fortune's flowers,
Where ugly shadows in each pathway crept,
And banished comfort even while they slept.
Pleasure was shorn of all its keenest zest,
And happiest moments were but feebly blest ;
'They saw not as have these—their children, seen—
A Canaan with its fields of living green,
Each hour some new-born joy or glad surprise,
And Earth reflecting gleams of Paradise.
Within the narrow circle of their lot,
They moved in line precise and faltered not,
And welcomed hardship with a joyous pride,
If but the Lord of hosts was satisfied.

Could some Van-Winkle of that Pilgrim band
Rouse from his lethargy at our command
And stalk abroad upon the city street,
Our programme of to-day had been complete,
The pen of Irving would have cried a halt,
And Jefferson's keen art have been at fault
To frame a picture of the waking dream
Of one who thus should voyage Oblivion's stream.
The swiftly passing years have wrought a change
Beyond Imagination's widest range,
And he in veriest truthfulness might say—
"A thousand years of his were as our day."
An age of Science has affirmed its place,
And Art is pressing Nature in the race.
No longer is the restless soul content
With blessing in its crudest element,

But Life is pouring on us to the fill,
In untold measure of developed skill.
A world of art, the landscape and the field
In richer fullness of their harvests yield.
The fruits that deck our Autumn's diadem
With golden gems, were quite unknown to them;
Even the flower that by the wayside grew,
Has changed its tint and wears a lovelier hue:
From rudest plant that bloomed on sterile waste,
A dozen cultured scions charm the taste,
And fresh-born floriculture, rich and fair,
Shall greet the wakened vision everywhere.
What shall he think when even Nature moves
In paths so foreign to her old-time grooves?
With firm allegiance to the God he served,
His faith in miracles had never swerved,
But those were dimly scrolled on History's page—
A mystic record of a far-off age,
While here, beyond his senses to deny,
Are marvels wrought before his very eye.
Just for one moment bid your fancy scan
The grim—and startled antiquarian:
In mournful loneliness behold him stand
A stranger in the strangest kind of land,
Who might well doubt, 'mid scenes so quaint and queer,
That ever he inhabited this sphere:
His untrained senses work as in a dream
And nineteenth-century chaos reigns supreme:
In vain the veteran stretches eyes and ears
For some familiar sign of other years;
Was this the land that he was nurtured in—

This restless race a portion of his kin?
Could modern genius with its mighty tread,
Steal such a march above his slumb'ring head,
And progress roll in such a tidal wave,
Nor fail to start the sleeper in his grave?
And whence these wonders—from a source Divine,
Or strange devices sprung from Satan's mine?
For truly might this neophyte of ours
Suspect the working of Satanic powers,
Where every whim of daily life is hedged
By some inventive process newly fledged:—
Inventions often bearing on their face
Suspensions of a diabolic trace.
What more infernal to a casual eye
Than harnessed steam like fury dashing by,
And whence these bound unless to Pluto's realm,
Who, with some modern Stygian at the helm,
Are stalking on at such a startling speed,
Propelled by fiery breath of iron steed?
What arrant nonsense could be more complete,
Than shouts the newsboy on the city street—
“Evening Gazette—last issue—all about
Some old-world king dethroned or counted out?”
Was ever stranger tale of fiction heard,
Or could be human fancy more absurd—
To hourly voice the beat of distant heart
In lands so many thousand miles apart,
And ascertain as with a lightning-flash
The daily balance of our foreign cash?
And yet, old friend, that doesn't tell it all,
For hear yon chap “hallooing” at the wall,

While every whisper that his lips convey
Is clearly listened to for miles away.
Munchausen's monstrous tales are told anew,
But modern sorcery has stamped them true:
The frozen music in his bugle-horn
No more with empty echo mocks in scorn,
Since floods of song and peal of merry laugh
Betray the secrets of the phonograph.
With every step and turn our Pilgrim takes,
Some new and strange discovery he makes:
Along the old-time lanes the street-car wheels
Press with bewildering clatter at his heels:
The wayside saplings, shorn as though by fire,
Are joined together by a web of wire,
Whose pulsing lines, as arteries of thought,
An instantaneous, world-wide voice has caught:
The tick and stroke of omnipresent clock
Salute his ear with nerve-disturbing shock:
He marked his hours, if we believe the yarn,
By chasing solar shadows round the barn,
Or if the sun for cause should fail to tell,
An hour-glass did the business quite as well.
One glance within a photographic place,
And lo! his portrait stares him in the face,
While vague remembrances of patience worn,
Struggling with sullen fire on frosty morn,
Mingled with other memories which wear
A dangerous nearness with the verb "to swear,"—
These all steal o'er him as his senses catch
Their first impressions of a friction-match.
We have a proverb held in honored trust—

“Thrice is he armed who hath his quarrel just ;”
We render this upon a broader plan,
For six times armed is our revolver-man ;
How old Miles Standish would have leaped for joy,
Had he possessed our military toy,
And Indian-hunting would have had a boom
To hurry many a native’s day of doom.

“Twere hard to tell which shall impress the most,—
The merits or the faults our age can boast ;
As every crown is mated with a cross,
And Fate permits no gain without some loss,
So shall our newly-wakened friend find cause
To frown upon some strange and startling flaws ;
Not all is gold that glitters, and, alas—
Too often flaunts its substitute in brass ;
Utopia still remains a distant dream
Of inspiration for the poet’s theme,
And mighty strivings for the unattained,
Leave present joys unnoticed or disdained.
The press and push of Life leave little room
For the old halcyon days of bud and bloom ;
Scarce known is Youth ; the infant, in his pride,
Has banished cradle, and in state doth ride ;
Old-fashioned childhood lingers as a myth ;
Twelve-year old Jack is known as Mr. Smith ;
And half-grown urchins vaunt their manhood more
Than did their ancient grandsires at four-score.
Along with lavish luxury and taste
March side by side extravagance and waste ;
From Cræsus’ daily meal the crumbs alone
Would make the old Thanksgiving table groan.

And God is mocked in praying for the poor
Too often hungering at the rich man's door.
Confusing customs lacking seeming sense
Crowd to the front with arrogant pretense ;
Time was when honest people, it is said,
Pronounced their prayers and tumbled into bed,
And deemed a Christian's duty fairly done
With business ended at the set of sun ;
Not so with us, who entertain a freak
Which makes existence vastly more unique ;
Scouting at Nature's laws, which seem to mark
Daylight for business, and for sleep the dark :
We paralyze old customs and dragoon
The work of morning into afternoon :
Thus, paradoxical, our matinee
Puts in its claim the latter half of day ;
The proper dinner is an evening rout,
And supper crowds to-morrow's breakfast out,
Disturbing habits by tradition fixed,
And rendering morn and eve a little mixed ;
Hence doth our Pilgrim find the streets at night
Aglow with modern-born electric light,
Whose spectral rays glare at him as the ghosts
Of fallen stars on lofty hitching posts.

Note his amazed expression as he reads
Emblazoned on our seal—"A woman leads ;"
Alas, what doubtful change of base is this
That throws its shadow over human bliss ?
It was not so in ages e're he slept
When woman silence in the churches kept,
And deemed her worldly mission best fulfilled

In following where her légal master willed:
And yet, my dear and resurrected sir,
Sadly have you misapprehended her,
For verily, did not the record score
Her leadership in Eden long before?
What if in part our speech belie our act
And reads our motto fancy more than fact,—
What if to-day we rest our strongest claim
In kind perpetuation of her name,
Through trade-mark or an advertising bill
For pleasure wagon or a cotton-mill?
Better by far her memory thus embalmed
Than on some stagnant wave of life becalmed,
Whose many daughters, spinster though she was,
Shall find a cheering music in the buzz
Of busy wheels, whose kind though rugged play
Is charming poverty and want away.

’Tis not the province of the bard to dwell
Whereon the orator might better tell,
But sundry notions of “Ye olden time,”
Inspire a passing comment from our rhyme.
We read that “should the Governor-elect
Throw that high office into disrespect
By non-acceptance, when the public voice
Through vote unanimous declared their choice,
Due cause for declination he must show
Or pay a fine of twenty pounds or so.”
Let modern statesmen ruminate on that.
When next they pass their office-seeking hat:
With contrite heart look back upon an age
When politicians scrambled not for wage.

And when desire for high position had
Small charm to lure your Puritanic dad.
If Governors were priced at twenty pounds,
What limit, think you, of financial bounds
Would circumscribe, at proper market rate
Some of our minor officers of state,—
Whose Titan struggles for official loaves,
Would strip the laurels from a dozen Joves?

Among old penalties for slips from grace,
We find this pointer stares us in the face;—
Shirking church service cost the absentee
In form of fine, a round ten-shilling fee.
From this small straw we find the truth evolved
Concerning one old problem long unsolved;
Why those grim saints should take such keen delight
In service, morning, afternoon and night,
Was never quite apparent till we read
The old colonial statutes on that head,
For, facts and premises brought down to us,
We reasoned to a fair conclusion thus—
If we, whose Sabbath homes are all aglow
With every comfort that a soul can know,
And piety by dint of fashion's aid,
Combines devotion with a dress-parade,
Where inspiration generates in style,
Within some gorgeous architectural pile,
Upon whose sunlit panes the artist paints
His grotesque fancies of the honored saints,
(Creating pictures, which to unschooled eyes
Are those of angels in extreme disguise.)
With more than kind provision made for those,

Who wish religion mingled with repose,—
The studied comfort of luxuriant pews,
Where rhyme and reason both suggest a snooze,
While padded floors as flowery beds of ease,
Turn most invitingly to bended knees,
With cultured choir, who render in their *strains*,
All shades of meaning which that noun contains:
And last, though not by any means the least,
The easy eloquence of gifted priest,
Whose rarely used anathemas are hurled
With much discretion at the outside world,
Thereby implying that his favored flock
Are no prospective part of Satan's stock,
If all this panoply of Christian art
Wake not devotion in the modern heart,
What strange inducement, human or divine
Compelled attendance at the Pilgrim shrine?
Surely not comfort lured the devotee
In paths, where, plainly, comfort could not be,
Nor could the ancient preacher's threatening tones
Bring balm of soothing to the sinner's groans
The charm of music held but little part,
And e'en that little seldom reached high art,
Where voices unattuned launched into song
And dragged all shades of melody along.
But here the record haply solves the doubt
And lets a long mysterious secret out.
Who questions that a moderate fine to-day
Might guide and keep us in the better way
And just the faintest touch of sacrifice
Develop light for our beclouded eyes?

Is there not danger that the Christian song—
"Salvation's free," is pitched a little strong,
As each one knows that what he values most
Is so esteemed with some regard to cost?

Another freak of Pilgrim enterprise
Forbade those Sabbath saints to close their eyes,—
The which was judged a pious breach of peace,
To be reported to the town police.
The old police at times were busy men,
If sermons now are types of sermons then;
And this stirs up the point we wish to state,—
That naps in church are subjects for debate:
Why should the pulpit 'scape its proper due
And all the odium fall upon the pew?
Cause and effect as equal factors pose,
Which quite explains the wearied layman's doze.
And he who cannot keep his flock awake
May fairly rate his calling a mistake.

Ah, well, the wayward world must have its joke
Though souls are weary and though hearts be broke;
'Tis well to banish carking care awhile,
And solace sorrow with a sunny smile.
Pleasure and pain are proper counterparts—
A twin-born heritage of human hearts,
And whether sadness shrouds us with its spell,
Joy has its compensating claims as well.
Life lacks in flavor did we not admit
The sauce of humor and the spice of wit.
And if our Pilgrim fathers seldom smiled
Or merrily their weary hours beguiled,

Then do their virtues claim a brighter hue,
Reflected through an atmosphere so blue.
Methinks our age in this has wiser grown
And taken on a better, healthier tone;
No longer is the solemn phiz a sign
Of any kinship to a life divine,
Nor do funereal features guarantee
Their owner's conscience altogether free;
Even the parson airs his pun with grace
And smiles adorn the worthy deacon's face:
Dramatic art, so long beneath the ban,
No longer horrifies the Puritan,
And Shakespeare's shadows—(or Lord Bacon's—which?)
Are flitting almost in the cloister's niche.

It were an easy task to jog along
In simple verse and never-ending song:
The brain revolves as doth a school-boy's top,
And once in motion scarce knows when to stop.
Hour after hour the Muse might ramble on
Amid the shadows of the days ago,
And newer thoughts and fresher fancies still
Would throng Imagination's path at will:
Vast is the theme and worthy of the pen
Of loftiest flight among the poet-ken:
If but a master hand might press the keys
That chime our rich heroic harmonies,
Bringing the glories of the Past to view
In tints which I, poor limner, cannot do
Then were a picture drawn so grandly fair.
That all the world with pride its fame might share:
But I must deem my tribute fittest paid

Through thought unspoken and with word unsaid,
Content am I to chant in lighter lays
And wake the echos of more peaceful days.

Nor were our genealogic jubilee
Complete, unless we climb the family tree
And greet those scions who have held aloof
So many years from the maternal roof;
For Taunton was a mother-town, forsooth,
With wayward children in their earlier youth,
Who needs must fold their tents and, Arab-like,
For fresher fields and newer pastures strike,
And in their fond conceit to go alone,
Must set up little townships of their own,
Around the hearthstone of their childhood's home.
They need no welcome, bidding them to come,
For in the free and easy reach of all,
Our latchstring hangs upon the outer wall;
The mother-heart in self-complacent mood,
Has only plaudits for her wandering brood
And grants them, with no small degree of pride,
A place of honor by the parent's side.

Perchance, when two more centuries shall have flown,
And with the Past our Present shall be known,
Our children's children with their speech and song
Shall meet and pass these compliments along;
With rev'rent hand shall take the volume down,
Which tells the story of the grand old town,
While we, as Pilgrims of a later age,
Shall furnish copy for the second page.
And will they, think you, as our names are told,

Weave with our memories some threads of gold?
Will they in truthfulness find voice to say
As we have boasted of our sires to-day?
Shall they, as we have done, a story tell,—
That for our day and age, we builded well,
Or must their bard, with fetter on his tongue,
In kindness leave our eulogy unsung?
Duty enlarges with advancing years;
Louder our call than that which reached the ears
Of those whose narrow pathway day by day,
Within the handbreath of a circle lay;
Shall our ten talents, coined of brightest gold,
For lack of use grow dim with rust and mould,
Nor richer harvest reap than they have done,
To whom the Master trusted with but one?
And here a lesson read, you whose life's toil
Has been a struggle mainly for its spoil—
You who have gathered honey all your lives
Like human bees in mercenary hives—
Who, from some chance-born height of vantage place,
Have looked not Fate but Fortune in the face—
Feeding with golden spoons from Mammon's plates,
With little thought of Earth's unfortunates,—
By so much more as Fortune's friendly smile,
Through kindly Providence hath blessed your while
Above those patient souls whose lot was cast
Within a barren and unfruitful past,
So presses with an unrelenting claim,
A call of duty which to shun is shame.
Of what avail the wealth of millionaire,
Whose days are freighted with a world of care,

If increased riches open not the door
For love and charity in greater store?
If merely counting dollars were a joy,
Then blest indeed the banker's office-boy,
Whose fortune, though it scarce conceals his rags,
Is quite the equal of old Moneybags.
The rich may live and die: what better they,
Lifeless and earth-bound than the common clay,
And hath not Scripture, as the text is given,
Almost denied to such the hope of Heaven?
Let new-born inspiration from this hour,
Lend to your gold a more benignant power;
Break the charmed circle which has wrought this spell
Of loving wealth, not wisely, but too well,
And grant the crowning grace our city needs
To round the record of her better deeds.
Enlarge her charities and hush the sneers
That all too often smite our tingling ears:
With liberal hand endow the sick man's home,
Within whose portals health and hope may come:
Be more than generous—be just to those
Who saved your country from your country's foes;
Spanning these many years of retrospect,
It seems a sorry and a strange neglect,
That bade those heroes in despondent mood,
No longer wait their city's gratitude:
May those who ring the next centennial bell
With happier voice than ours their story tell
Of monumental benefactions strewn
In every path where want or need is known.
But Time, which brings all mundane things to grief,

Bids me afford your patient ears relief;
Yet would I, ere I set my task aside,
Pledge the old hamlet with a loyal pride:
Forever be her memories a joy
Beyond all hostile fortune to destroy;
In hours of needed rest from toil, I find
Her charm of peacefulness exceeding kind:
The trees that shade her pleasant streets and ways,
A lingering vestige of the earlier days,
Are gladsome in the eyes of those who prize
The bounteous gifts which Nature's hand supplies:
The fields o'er which I rambled when a lad,
Then only with the simplest verdure clad,
Have laid aside their coat of native green,
And happy home-life paints anew the scene;
Those modest cottage-homes and garden-plots
Are more than brown-stone fronts and city lots.
"God made the country and man made the town."
The scribe of poesy hath written down,
And though both town and country God hath willed,
And each with tokens of His goodness filled,
Yet rustic Nature wears a happier face
Than ever shone from out the market-place.

Peace be within thy walls fair home of ours,
And prospering airs possess thy sheltering bowers:
And as the coming generations ring
The changes that successive epochs bring,
May there be written, never less than now,
A fond, maternal welcome on thy brow.
As an old homestead to the wearied heart,
Of all things else remains a joy apart,

Reaching with outstretched hand to every son,
Though he be prodigal or prudent one,
So may this homestead of a larger kin,
With Memory's echoes lure her children in;
May there be tender voices in each breeze
That waves with rustling ripple through her trees;
Sermons in every rock and stone, which preach
With more than human eloquence of speech;
Books in her lakes and brooks, whose magic lore
Charms as a loving study evermore,
And good in all that tells us Nature's truth,
Which never quite betrays the dreams of Youth,
But ever and anon lights up the path
That leads the toiler toward Life's aftermath,
And he must senseless be and dull indeed,
Who in his Autumn hours has failed to read
Among the lessons that his years have brought,
That none were plainer or more kindly taught,
Than that which writes the home that gave him birth
As one among the dearest spots on earth.

The closing hymn America was then sung with telling effect by the Beethoven Society and the great assemblage, accompanied by Reeves' Band, after which Rev. Charles H. Learoyd pronounced the

BENEDICTION.

The peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of His son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the Blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you, and remain with you always. Amen.



NECK OF LAND,
A Business Centre in the Olden Time.



ANCHOR FORGE,
The Original Taunton Iron Works.

THE BANQUET.

At the conclusion of the exercises in Music Hall, carriages were at hand to convey the invited guests of the city to Agricultural Hall, on the Bristol County Fair Grounds, for the appointed Banquet, served in admirable style by the renowned caterer, T. D. Cook of Boston.

Plates were laid for six hundred persons, and that number were supposed to be present. The Hall was tastefully decorated and music was furnished by Reeves' American Band.

After the company were seated, Mayor Hall invited Rev. John P. Forbes, pastor of the First Congregational Society, Taunton, to invoke a Divine Blessing, which he did, as follows :—

O thou, who wast and art and art to come, we bow before thee in spirit. Age after age thy children seek thee and find that of thy faithfulness and mercy there is no end. We reverently thank thee for all the blessings which we enjoy. Deeply mindful of the hardship, the sacrifice and the noble fidelity of our Fathers,—we pray that we, thy servants, may be strong and true to do the work laid upon us, that every good we have received from the past may be bettered in our hands, and sacredly preserved for the future. Humbly we ask that thy Kingdom may come and thy will be done in our beloved land and in all the earth. And as thine is the honor and the glory, so shall the praise be thine, forever and ever. Amen.

When ample justice had been done to the bountiful supply of delicacies provided for the occasion, the President of the Day, Mayor Hall, introduced the post-prandial exercises in the following fitting words :—

Ladies and Gentlemen :—

We are observing to-day a festival of great interest to our city. Taunton may well feel proud of her long and successful career. Her sons and daughters returned home on this, her 250th Anniversary, may well exchange mutual greetings and congratulations.

Proper indeed was it to commence the festivities of this occasion by a historical review of our past, and the recital of our record in verse.

Proper indeed is it, then, to gather around these tables, to pledge the health of old Taunton and wish her long life and prosperity. It is not for me, however, to occupy the time of the guests here assembled; that duty falls to the lot of abler hands than mine. I have the pleasure to present to you our toastmaster, an honored citizen, Judge William Henry Fox.

Judge Fox, on being thus introduced, proceeded to say :

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen :—

Let me proceed at once to the duties assigned me, which consist chiefly in applying the torch to the howitzers all about me which are loaded to the muzzle and stand waiting to be fired. They will make a tremendous report, and doubtless hit the mark; but we will not be alarmed, ladies, for they will fire over our heads and will not hurt us; for they are firing at their ancestors to-day, and they ought to aim high. Our first sentiment is as follows :—

The President of the United States:—The chosen head of a nation whose corner stone is yonder Plymouth Rock.

“Oh, Land of Lands: to thee we give
Our prayers, our hopes, our service free;
For thee thy sons shall nobly live,
And at thy need, shall die for thee.”

The President, in response to an invitation tendered him to join these festivities, replies as follows :—

EXECUTIVE MANSION, WASHINGTON,

April 27, 1889.

DEAR SIR :—

The President directs me to acknowledge the receipt of your note of the 24th inst., enclosing an invitation to attend the 250th Anniversary of the founding of Taunton, Mass., and to convey to the committee, through you, his sincere thanks for the courtesy.

He desires me to say that it would give him much pleasure to be present on this historic occasion, and he appreciates the friendly terms in which you urge his acceptance, but his public duties will most likely prevent him from leaving the Capital at the date of your celebration.

Very Respectfully Yours,

E. W. HALFORD,
Private Secretary.REV. S. HOPKINS EMERY,
Secretary of Committee of Invitation, Taunton, Mass.

The Vice-President who gave us strong encouragement to hope for his presence, has at last found it impossible to be with us. But he has sent us an interesting letter which I will read.

RHINECLIFF, N. Y., May 27th, 1889.

GENTLEMEN:—

I have delayed a reply, hoping to be able to accept the cordial invitation with which I have been honored, to be present and join in your Anniversary celebration on the 4th and 5th of June.

It would give me great pleasure to visit your beautiful and enterprising city on the 250th Anniversary of its settlement as it would also to visit your neighbors at Middleboro', where my ancestors and some of their descendants have lived since George Morton landed at Plymouth in 1623, but I regret extremely to find that it will be impossible for me to avail myself of the generously proffered hospitalities of the City of Taunton on so interesting an occasion.

With the best wishes for the perfect success of your celebration, in which I naturally take deep interest, and hearty congratulation upon the marvellous progress of Taunton during the two hundred and fifty years that have passed,

I have the honor to be, gentlemen,

Very faithfully and truly yours,

LEVI P. MORTON.

Messrs. Richard Henry Hall, Samuel Hopkins Emery, John Williams Dean Hall, William Eddy Fuller, Henry Morton Lovering and George Albert Washburn, Committee on Invitations.

There is no more attractive town in New England than Easton, a part of our "North Purchase." We all know that she owes her prosperity and her beauty very largely to the thrift and enterprise and the munificent generosity and public spirit of the elder Oliver Ames, his sons and his grandsons.

We welcome our Chief Magistrate to-day, not merely on account of the high office which he so gracefully fills, but also because he is a son of Easton, and so, by derivation, a son of Taunton. I give you—The Commonwealth of Massachusetts;—and present to you His Excellency the Governor.

RESPONSE BY GOVERNOR AMES.

Friends and Neighbors:—

For three months past, by the advice of my physician, I have denied myself the pleasure of attending many gatherings of my fellow-citizens, and against his protest I am here to-day. Having had my residence from my birth in the town of Easton, which for over sixty years was a part of your territory, known as the Taunton North Purchase; being familiar from my childhood with all that affects you; knowing a large number of you personally and a larger number by reputation; I could not refrain from joining with you in celebrating the 250th Anniversary of the founding of the town of Taunton.

I am here to-day as Governor of the Commonwealth, and in her name I bring to you the congratulations of all her people.

They see in your city an example of what a New England community should be, and with you they rejoice that you have had so many years of corporate existence, that you have employed them so usefully, and that there is so much of promise for you in the future. The future of a community in which the distinctively New England qualities of thrift, enterprise and honesty are encouraged and maintained cannot be doubtful.

But I come to you to-day as a neighbor and friend, as well as Governor of the Commonwealth, and I desire to say to you a few friendly words, rather than to talk to you officially. During my boyhood and early manhood I saw much of Taunton and its people, and I have always taken an interest and felt a pride in all that concerns them. Forty years ago, Taunton was the place at which my father's firm shipped much of their manufactured goods, and at which they did their banking. I was constantly visiting it in their service. Although the building of railroads and other causes have so changed the channels of business that Taunton is of much less importance to me in a business way, still I see here a centre around which cluster not only the memories of the past but the living interest of the present.

As time has gone by I have seen your village grow into a city and your prosperity steadily increase. I have watched the growth of your manufacturing interests, and I have seen them grow from small beginnings to a magnitude of which any community may well be emulous. Your business men are enterprising and public spirited; your workers are energetic and cheerful; your homes are comfortable and happy; your streets are safe and peaceful; you have the advantages which churches and schools and other educational agencies provide. You are, as a whole, a prosperous and happy people and in your prosperity and happiness your neighbors share.

Your mission is not by any means ended. You have seen two hundred and fifty years of growth and prosperity. While your people remain what they have been and what they now are, you will continue the career of usefulness and prosperity upon which you have so well proceeded.

The Judiciary of Massachusetts:—Honored at home; respected wherever the English language is spoken. With affectionate pride the mother town receives back to his childhood's home to-day, a son whose distinguished career

has added luster to an already eminent name. I have the honor to present our Chief Justice, the Honorable Marcus Morton.

RESPONSE BY HON. MARCUS MORTON.

Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen:—

One of the blessings of an occasion like this, is that it opens the hearts of all the inhabitants of the town and makes them hospitably and kindly disposed, not only toward each other, but especially toward us who are present on this interesting anniversary, revisiting the home of our fathers. I have been deeply touched, as I have moved about among you, by the hearty hand shakes and the cordial welcome which I have received on every side. As Judge Fox has said, I am Taunton born and bred; this is my native place, the home of my youth, and as I stand here to-day, I feel deeply the truth of the poet's thought, that however far we may wander, whatever new ties and associations, and interests we form, the heart turns fondly to the old home.

It has been assigned to me to respond to the toast to "The Judiciary of Massachusetts." I might enlarge upon the dignity and importance, the duties and responsibilities of that important department of our government.

But, to-day, naturally, Taunton is uppermost in the thoughts of all, and I have thought that it would not be out of place if I devoted the few minutes allotted to me to the pleasant task of calling to your minds the part which Taunton has had in furnishing judges for the service of the commonwealth since the adoption of the constitution.

Two of your citizens have been judges of our highest judicial tribunal, Robert Treat Paine and Marcus Morton. The former was a justice of the Supreme Court, from 1790 to 1804, when he resigned.

Judge Bennett in his interesting and exhaustive address, delivered before you this morning, has so eloquently set forth the great patriotism and judicial services of Judge Paine that it leaves nothing for me to add.

Marcus Morton was a justice of the same court from 1825 to 1840, when having been elected governor, he resigned his office as judge.

He held the nearest and dearest relation to me and it is more fitting that others should speak of him; but I hope I may say that his services in this great office and in the other public trusts committed to him, were such as to reflect no discredit upon

the town of his adoption and love. Coming to the other courts, I can speak with less reserve. I can add nothing to the just and glowing tribute paid by Judge Bennett, in his address, to the patriot, soldier and jurist, David Cobb, who was a judge of the Court of Common Pleas in the latter part of the last century. A few years later another eminent citizen, Samuel Fales, was for several years a judge and chief justice of the Court of Common Pleas. This court was then a county court, having jurisdiction only in the County of Bristol. In 1821 our judicial system was reorganized and the Court of Common Pleas for the Commonwealth was established. The governor was to appoint "four meet persons," to be justices, who, in the quaint language of the statute, "shall be men of sobriety of manners and learned in the law."

Of the four justices first appointed, John Mason Williams of Taunton was one. He served as justice until 1839, when he was promoted to be chief justice and continued to serve in that capacity until 1844, when he resigned. Judge Williams met the requirements of the statute in every respect. He was a man of abundant learning in the law, and of the highest character, of unimpeachable integrity and purity, of great dignity of demeanor and of unfailing courtesy of manner. It may sound like very high praise, but I have heard members of the bar, who practiced before him, assert that we never had, in our courts, a man who on the whole, was more competent and satisfactory as a *nisi prius* judge. Permit me to read a short extract from an address made to him on the last day on which he presided in court. It was made on behalf of the bar by the Hon. Samuel Dunn Parker, who was one of the ablest lawyers of the state, a man of severe judgment and not given to flattery. Speaking of the impending retirement of the chief justice, he says:—"This is an event we cannot but deeply lament, as we in common with others in every county of the commonwealth have for a quarter of a century admired the undeviating impartiality, the extensive learning, the gentlemanly courtesy, the sound and lucid exposition of the law, the perennial dignity, the uncommon ability and untiring industry with which for that length of time you have discharged the judicial function to the satisfaction and benefit of your fellow citizens."

These are very eulogistic words, but not strained or undeserved. They express the sentiments and feelings of the bar. Taunton has reason to be proud of Chief Justice Williams, as one of her most useful and eminent citizens.

Chief Justice Williams resigned in 1844. In the following year Harrison Gray Otis Colby was appointed a judge of the Common Pleas Court. Although at the time a resident of New Bed-

ford, he is most known as a member of the bar of Taunton where for many years he was an able and successful lawyer. He remained upon the bench but two years and was an able and useful judge. From this time for many years, Taunton had no representation upon the bench.

In the meanwhile, in 1859, the Superior Court was established to take the place of the Court of Common Pleas. This is a court of great dignity and importance. It is the great trial court of the Commonwealth. Of all the jury cases tried in the state, I presume ninety per cent. are tried in this court. There is no position in the civil service of the state in which it is more important to have for judges men, not only learned in the law, but of sound sense and good judgment, and especially of the capacity rapidly to apply the principles of law to the ever varying circumstances of the cases as they arise before them. The state is fortunate in having on this court so able and efficient a body of judges.

To this high position Chester Isham Reed of Taunton was appointed in 1867. Many of you will remember him as an accomplished and genial gentleman, and as an able and successful lawyer. He carried to the bench the same genial and courteous traits of character and was respected and beloved as a judge. Unfortunately he remained upon the bench but a few years, resigning in 1871, but long enough to demonstrate his capacity to make one of our most useful and able judges.

In speaking of the judiciary of Massachusetts, I ought not to overlook one branch of the judicial department, which is by no means of secondary importance, I mean the Probate Courts of our several counties. When you reflect that as often as once in every generation of men the whole personal property of the state passes under the administration of these courts, you will appreciate their value and the importance of having learned and able judges, of good sense and judgment and knowledge of affairs to preside over them. I feel some delicacy as to what I am about to say, as it touches one who is present with us to-day. But surely in attempting to speak of the wise and able judges which your town has furnished, it would be an act of injustice to omit that accomplished citizen of Taunton, who for nearly a quarter of a century was the Judge of Probate of the County of Bristol. Massachusetts never had a better Judge of Probate than Judge Edmund H. Bennett.

I will detain you no longer. I have accomplished my purpose if I have shown that our good old town has a right to feel a just satisfaction and pride in the able judges which she has furnished to the service of our Commonwealth.



MORTON HOSPITAL,
Formerly the Residence of Gov. Marcus Morton.



CITY HALL.

The Pilgrims:—Two hundred and sixty-eight years ago, perhaps this very month, Cohannet first felt the step of the white man. It was then that Edward Winslow and Stephen Hopkins took their long and perilous tramp from Plymouth, through these wilds, possibly across this very field, to the shore of Narragansett Bay, to meet King Massasoit. My history fails me here. They may have been reporters going to interview the King on the tariff question, but in the light of modern history, it seems to me more likely that they were seeking for office under the new administration. But there is a learned gentleman present who can tell us more about the Pilgrims than the rest of us have ever dreamed of and I take pleasure in presenting the Rev. Dr. Henry M. Dexter, who will speak for them.

RESPONSE BY REV. DR. HENRY M. DEXTER.

I assume, sir, that in the few moments allotted me there is no desire that I thresh again the old straw of a general historic question. By this time the world, so far as it has appetite for such matters, has learned:—In the first place, that the *Puritans* were serious-minded Englishmen of the 16th and 17th centuries, who felt that the great business of life is to serve God, while such genuine service demanded that those ancient forms which the Church of England had inherited from Rome be pruned of excrescences, purged of idolatries, and vitalized by fresh genuineness and zeal. In the second place, that the *separatists* were Puritans who saw no other way of sincere living but to leave their old church, even if they had to leave their old homes, that they might obey the word of God. And in the third place, that the *Pilgrims* were Puritan separatists, who, not content with a tolerated and tolerable, yet restricted and unfruitful existence among the somewhat meager, if kindly, hospitalities of Holland, yearned to live again under their old flag; to render service, on some remote shore, even to that conceited bigot who occupied the English throne, whose sense of justice and whose utmost stretch of royal benignity exhausted themselves in the surly suggestion that possibly he might turn his majestic head the other way and not see them if they fled across the sea; and to do something, if God would help them,—even humbly and but as stepping stones unto others—for

the performing of so great a work, in advancing the kingdom of Christ among the savages of this wilderness. Such Puritan separatists as these, were the Pilgrim Fathers of this Old Colony.

It is usual to take a text for a sermon. I reverse the process, and take a sermon for my text.

I hold in my hand an original copy of the first discourse ever preached in Taunton which attained to the dignity of type; delivered here so early as on Thursday, 23 July, (2 Aug.,) 1640. This, you will observe, was a few days more than nineteen years after the first white feet—of Edward Winslow and Stephen Hopkins—passed this way on their rough pilgrimage to the wigwam of Massasoit at Sowams, and but nine days more than a year and a month later than that formal settlement of Cohannet which we now commemorate.

It is entitled, *New England's Teares for old England's Feares*, by William Hook, sometime of Axmouth in Devon, now of Taunton in New England; and was delivered—it may have been under a spreading oak—it being “a day of Public Humiliation, appointed by the churches in behalf of our native country in time of feared dangers.” You will recall the circumstances which led the way. Charles I., obstinately bent both on doing foolish things, and on doing all things in a foolish way, had reduced himself to penury by one brief campaign against the rebellious Scots. After the longest interval known to English history—an interval crowded with every conceivable form of illegal exaction—Parliament had met again at Westminster, simply because money must be had, and could be had only by an act of the Commons. But vexed because they talked of grievances instead of voting subsidies, the hasty and petulant monarch suddenly dissolved the session and sent the members home to breed discontent in all the land. The last ships which had come over had brought tidings of this—of the popular commotion; of the fact that the king was raising another army to march into the north, having squeezed the money therefor—which London flatly refused to lend him—by a forced loan from the nobility and gentry; and that the whole air of England was thick with premonitions of civil war. Archbishop Laud was still on his high horse, and the star chamber was recklessly fining whom it pleased thousands of pounds, setting them in the pillory, cutting off their ears and slitting their noses—for daring to act as if their souls were their own.

These were the tidings—thirty or forty days old. What might already have followed nobody dared to imagine; and such was the situation.

There were then four and twenty churches within the bounds of the Massachusetts and the Plymouth colonies; eighteen in the former, and six in the latter. These churches appointed a day of fasting and prayer.

But it should be understood and remembered that in these colonies there was, and for sometime had been, remarkable prosperity. The Pequot war had been well ended, to great content. The "proud opinions" that a short time before had risen up to disturb everybody with the familistic troubles had subsided. The churches had peace. For plenteous harvests the land had never known the like, so that, so far as all new English affairs went a great Thanksgiving would have been in order, without waiting for the last Thursday of November.

But our Fathers appointed a Fast, and I tell you that a Fast meant something then. Base ball games, shooting matches, fishing excursions, hunting up summer board and the like amusements were as yet undeveloped as accepted methods of hallowing the occasion. To appoint a Fast then meant to the entire community the giving up of a whole secular day to public religious service. Gov. Winthrop tells us [Journal II:13] that the ship *Mary Rose*, of Bristol, Eng., recently come in from sea and lying in the stream, on 27 July, (6 Aug.,) 1640—and that was the Monday after the Thursday of this very Fast—blew up by the never accounted for explosion of twenty-four barrels of powder in her hold, killing the captain and nine or ten of his men, with four or five strangers, one man alone escaping with life. Winthrop intimates that "the judgment of God appeared in this, because, alone of all the ships in the harbor, this captain had neglected with his crew to attend the public Fast service, saying when remonstrated with, that "he had as good a service aboard as they had ashore."

Now, one can see a little what kind of men these first settlers of Taunton were, in this, that while their infant settlement was yet in the gristle, and every secular hour had its own pre-eminent value, they left their houses half-finished, their fences half-built, their fields half-hoed, to devote one-sixth of a whole week of long July days, when they were in prosperity, to humble themselves and beg the Divine interposition to save from the horrors of civil war that native land out of which most of them had fled for their faith and for their lives.

I get—let me say—from this discourse, a more exalted idea than some other facts suggest, of the quality and average mental condition of these Pilgrim fathers of Cohannet. It was sent over in manuscript to a member of the Honorable House of Commons, who thought so well of it that he had it printed "for the publike

good." He says of it in his few prefatory words.—"If thou bring thy heart with thee to the reading of it, thou mayst find thy heart melting by reading of it, and then thou shalt have cause to bless God for it." You have had here and have within my knowledge, well cultured and very able men in your pulpits, but I confess to a doubt whether you ever had one, who, on the whole, could write a better sermon than this. In spirit, devout, tender, pitying and true; shot through and through with the golden threads of scripture thoughts and speech; in language admirable, rising now and then into pathetic eloquence, and everywhere assuming not only new power of thought, but a considerable level of comprehension in the audience. I have always insisted that our Pilgrim Fathers were not great men by original position and culture so much as by character and achievement; that it is a mistake to try to lift them to a level in social position and training with the Massachusetts Company. But when I see William Hook, a Master of Arts of Trinity College, Oxford,—soon to be associated with the famous John Davenport in the care of the famous first Church of New Haven, a correspondent of Oliver Cromwell while here, and who went back to the old country in the days of the Commonwealth to be his domestic chaplain, and to lay his own bones in Bunhill Fields; when I see this William Hook in his narrow cabin near Taunton Green writing a discourse for his little congregation of Cohannet settlers, garnished with one quotation in the original Latin from the third Eclogue of Virgil, and two from the Pharsalia of Lucan, with another from an author whom I am not scholar enough to identify, together with a reference in the original Greek to the Nicomachean Ethics of Aristotle, I am sure that he entertained no fear that his beaten oil wouldn't burn in the lamp of his humble sanctuary.

Very beautiful to me is the revelation which this sermon makes of the simple, reverent, confiding tone of the mind of our Pilgrim Fathers toward the Bible. In unfolding and pressing the doctrine gathered from the text, with the lessons which it carries, appeal is constantly made to the Divine Word in an artless manner, not as the end of all strife, for there is no strife, but as the clear and conclusive statement of truths needing only statement for belief. I have counted six and forty direct Scripture references in these three and twenty pages, besides many more which are veiled and indirect. I wish modern "improvements" had not led pulpits and pews so far away from all this!

And, finally, Sir, what touches me most here, as it touches me everywhere as I reverently study, as closely as I can, the innermost character of the men of whom we are thinking to-day, is the

sublime and regnant absoluteness of their confidence in God. It exhales like "the perfumes of Arabia" from every page of this sermon. These men believed that God could save their dear old England, which, with all her faults, they loved still; and that they might perhaps help move Him to do so.

Dr. Young says: "by night an Atheist half believes a God." But there wasn't agnosticism enough among all the one hundred and two passengers of the *Mayflower*—that wretched black sheep of a Billington, and all his, included—to get up one single respectable doubt on board day time or night. When the terrific weather took them in mid-ocean, stove in their upper works, and cracked and displaced one of the main beams: the sailors were scared, and the master had his doubts, and there was a serious time of consultation. But one of the Leyden men brought out from the pile of his belongings a great "iron screw" and they tightened up things, and repaired damages, and "committed themselves to the will of God," and kept on. That is what they always did. And when, in those early dreadful months, the Governor died, and half their company died, they just buried them in the best manner they could, trusted in God and kept on. And when 5, (15) April 1621, the *Mayflower* started on her return voyage, not one of them wanted to go back in her! And when in 1623, from 3d May to 15th July, they had fierce heat, and not a drop of rain, so that their grass patches were parched like withered hay, and the springing corn, which stood between them and starvation, drooped and shriveled, they appointed a Fast and humbled themselves before the God in whom they lived and moved and had their being, and lifted their hearts in the submission of hope. And, though it was clear weather, and very hot, and not a cloud anywhere to be seen in the sky, Gov. Bradford says: "toward evening it began to be overcast, and shortly after to raine with such sweet and gentle showers as gave them great cause of rejoicing and blessing God. It came without either wind or thunder or any violence, and by degrees in that abundance as that the earthe was thorowly wete and soked therewith. Which did so apparently revive and quicken the decayed corn and other fruits as was wonderful to see, and made the Indians astonished to behold; and afterwards the Lord sent them such seasonable showers, with interchange of fair, warme wether, as, through His blessing caused a fruitful and liberal harvest to their no small comfort, and rejoicing. For which mercy (in time convenient) they also set apart a day of thanksgiving." [Bradford, 142.]

Such men, Sir, were great with the truest, with an eternal greatness. God give us, their children, like largeness and purity

of soul. Then—with the sweet singer of Olney, in these lines suggested by the sight of his mother's picture, we may each one say :

My boast is not, that I deduce my birth
From loins enthroned, and rulers of the earth;
But higher far my proud pretensions rise—
The son of parents pass'd into the skies.

The Massachusetts Historical Society:—In the settlement of Taunton, the Pilgrim and the Puritan joined hands; for while the territory belonged to Plymouth Colony, a very respectable portion of the first settlers came from Boston and its vicinity. And so we may, if we will, claim kinship with those good men of Massachusetts Bay, who, it is said, sometimes hastened the exit of witches and Quakers from this trying world; and with true filial devotion we may explore the archives of the Puritan colony for records of its founders. Nowhere can this search be more effectively made than in the collections of that ancient and honorable institution, the Massachusetts Historical Society, whose president, the eminent scholar and historian, the Rev. Dr. George E. Ellis, I am glad to introduce to you.

RESPONSE BY REV. DR. GEORGE E. ELLIS.

It is a privilege and an honor to be called upon on this occasion to respond to the recognition of the Massachusetts Historical Society. I heartily wish that its venerated emeritus President—whose name and lineage with all their great services, with his own, carry with them so much of the best of our history—was here to relieve me of this office. That society is the first and the oldest of its fellowships, now very numerous, in this country. It lacks but little more than a year for its full century, since it was initiated four years before its incorporation in 1794. Its first five associates invited five more, and so it began with a membership of ten. Originally self-limited to thirty members resident in the state, its charter restricted it to sixty members. In 1857 an amendment in the charter extended its roll to one hundred members. There it remains. Numerous kindred societies in the state engage the zeal and industry of large numbers interested in local or general history. During the term of its existence the society

has had on its resident roll 356 members, more than two-thirds of whom I have known personally. Brilliant and honored names are on that calendar, the foremost in our history, poetry, literature, patriotism, statesmanship, diplomacy, oratory, the judiciary of bar and bench, merchant princes and men of all nobleness in public and private life.

As for nearly half a century I have sat in their company, and so many of them have vanished from sight, the thought has often been in my mind, of the opportuneness of the time, and of the special fitness of the prime movers, when and by whom the society was instituted. The Congregational ministers of all New England have from its settlement to this day, been most concerned and most laborious in tracing, recording and gathering the materials of its history. Three such ministers originated the Massachusetts Society. As they drew in associates, lay and clerical, they called themselves "The Historical Society," and in their first appeal announced their purpose to aim for "a complete history of the country." The charter attached the title Massachusetts. The society has always made this state, its history, its towns and its institutions and its people, the main subjects of its interests, but has never forgotten the whole country. The first purchased property of the society consisted of twelve wooden chairs with "elbows," called "Windsor chairs," a pine wood table, painted, with drawer and lock, and an inkstand. They are faithfully preserved.

Then as to the opportuneness of the time when the society was formed. The three Boston ministers, Belknap, Eliot and Thacher, who initiated it, were men in the vigor of life, of Harvard training, who had all passed through the scenes of the Revolution, with family pride and history. They had been inquirers in the beginnings of things here, and had each collected his own store of the prime materials of history. These they contributed for shelf and cabinet, not as decoys, but as magnets, as nest-eggs, for gathering a brood. They prompted the searching into old secretaries and garrets, just at the fitting time to rescue what might soon have perished, beginning with the very earliest records made in this wilderness. Most of those records are of a creditable and honorable tenor. But an awful loyalty to truth has forbidden the wilful destruction of any thing, whatever the moral or the warning of the record. Over some portion of these ancient papers might well be inscribed two of the lines on the monument of old Hearne, the pioneer and father of English Antiquaries,

"Devil take you, says Time to Thomas Hearne!
Whatever I forget you learn."

The infant society sent as its first publication over all the continent and its islands, "A Circular Letter," not begging money but urging the collecting and preserving of the materials of history. The society has published seventy-eight octavo volumes, mostly of original and valuable papers—such as Hubbard's and Bradford's Histories, Judge Sewall's Diary and Letters, Correspondence, Journals, Annals, Statistics, Memoirs, etc., of permanent interest. Our Massachusetts History has been more fully, minutely, and on the whole impartially related than that of any other community on the earth. Those who wish to depreciate or censure the state or its people have need to draw their materials from these candid records. Those who seek to misrepresent and slander rely in addition upon their own ignorance or imagination. There is, however, one New England history, written also by a minister, though a Church of England missionary, the Rev. Samuel Peters of Connecticut, to whom we are indebted for such fables as that of the invading army of frogs, whose uproar at Windham was like the bellowing of bulls, heard at the distance of miles, and spreading dismay and panic over the country. To the same amusing satirist we owe the perennial legend of the "Blue Laws."

It may now be affirmed that no fit student can revise, recast, or complete the history of any town or incident in Massachusetts, dated in the past, without consulting the shelves and the cabinet of the Historical Society. The rich and faithful utterances to which you have to-day been listening from your well-furnished orator illustrates that statement.

We do not forget to-day the old town in the mother country, whose name we bear "for the honor and love," which we as well as our fathers "bear toward our dear and native land." In response to the invitations sent the Mayor and Corporation of Taunton, England, to be present with us on this occasion, the following has been received:—

TAUNTON, ENGLAND, May 16, 1889.

DEAR MR. MAJOR:—

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your kind letter and invitations to the celebration of the 250th Anniversary of the founding of your town.

I brought the subject before our corporation at their monthly meeting, and also had invitations sent to each member, but I am afraid the long journey will prevent us from accepting your kind hospitality. But on behalf of myself, the other members of the

corporation and the inhabitants of the old town, I beg to thank you and your committee for your kind feelings toward us, and to assure you that although we shall not be present at your celebration our hearts will be with you, and we trust you will have a pleasant and enjoyable time.

Our corporation has decided to send you an address of congratulation which is being prepared, and I hope will reach you in good time.

I have sent you a local paper from which you will see the account of our Council meeting. You will also observe that last week we had the honor of a visit from H. R. H., the Duke of Cambridge.

With kind regards and best wishes, I remain, dear Mr. Mayor,

Yours faithfully,

HENRY I. SPILLER,

Mayor of Taunton, England.

To His Worship, the Mayor of Taunton, Mass., U. S. A.

The First Settlers of Taunton:—Perhaps the most prominent of the first settlers of Taunton was Richard Williams, whom the historian calls the father of the town. How near this statement came to being the literal truth, we may infer from the fact that there are ninety-three Williamsses in our last city directory. And this number by no means indicates the whole family; for a great many of them have got away, and are scattered all over the earth. One of these wandering sons, who has come back to us to-day, has carried to so fair a fruitage the good seed sown by his ancestor, that it has been publicly said of him that he is the only man in Maine who could be elected governor who would not accept the office. And that high office is so highly coveted, we know, in the Pine Tree state, that they sometimes have two governors at a time. Our friend, in his leisure moments, is something of an antiquarian and, I am told, has collected 1,000 names of the descendants of Richard Williams, and I believe he offers a reward for any new descendant that may be brought to him, dead or alive. I give you "The First

Settlers of Taunton," and present to you a descendant, in the seventh generation, of Richard Williams, the Hon. Josiah H. Drummond of Portland.

RESPONSE BY HON. JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND.

Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen:

Or, if you will allow me to salute you by a title more pleasing to me, I will say Cousins of Ancient Taunton:

If I had ever lacked interest in my descent from the founders of your town, one glance up and down these tables would have revived it: and to-day I count myself fortunate in being a descendant from Richard Williams and that I have learned the fact before I had become any older.

Yes, many of the descendants of your "First Settlers" have wandered away; my friend King and myself, speaking for those who live in Maine, represent many more than are now found in your limits, even if you take your beautiful city and all the towns which went to make up Taunton of "ye ancient time."

In Maine, the descendants of the "First Settlers of Taunton" are found all over the State, from Kittery Point to Quoddy Head, from the Highlands to the ocean. On the shores of Casco Bay, in the valley of the Androscoggin, the roar of whose falls is lost in the hum of manufactories; in the valley of the glorious old Kennebec, the music of whose waters was the lullaby of my infancy and the delight of my boyhood; in the valley of the majestic Penobscot and even in the valley of the far St. Croix, are equally found the descendants of the noble men and women, who redeemed from the wilderness the spot where I now stand. To illustrate;—among the first settlers of one town in Maine were seven families from Taunton: how well they obeyed the injunction to "increase and multiply" you may know from the fact that in each one of five of these families, there were nine children; the other two, as the saying is, "broke the record," by having eleven children in each. In the neighborhood, too, in which I was born, there were, in my boyhood, fourteen families dwelling consecutively within a space of two miles upon the same road, twelve of which, upon the one side or the other, were descendants of Richard Williams. In fact, I believe that you could not call the roll of a single hamlet in Maine without some descendant of Ancient Taunton answering the call.

On behalf of these almost countless far-away cousins, I greet you, and most heartily congratulate you upon this auspicious day.

But my friend, the toastmaster, has called upon me to respond for the "First Settlers of Taunton" instead of for their descendants, of whom, I infer, that he and the other young men propose to take care, without help from me. Indeed, he has warned you that I am "offering a reward for a descendant of Richard Williams, dead or alive;" he has slightly exaggerated; my work ends with the fifth generation, and those now living are in no danger.

Recent investigations, set on foot, I think, by the influence of your Old Colony Historical Society and its indefatigable officers, have somewhat changed the formerly prevailing opinion in relation to the ancestry and place of birth of Richard Williams. The discovery of wills made by his immediate relatives, and the information gained by Ex-Gov. Joseph H. Williams of my state, first made public to-day through his letter to you, render it quite certain in my mind, that Richard Williams was not born in Wales, or if he was, that he left there in very early childhood.

Referring to the letter of Gov. Williams (the information in which he has kindly communicated to me,) we find that "Richard Williams of the parish of St. Johns in Gloucester and Frances Dighton of the parish of St. Nicholas in Gloucester were married in the parish of Whitcomb Magna, February 11, 1632 (O. S.)"

In passing, we note that Gov. Williams has discovered the parentage and family of the fair bride, whose memory has been worthily honored by giving her name to one of the towns that made part of "Ancient Taunton," and of her sister Katherine, the wife of Gov. Dudley—a problem that has heretofore baffled all the efforts of genealogists and antiquarians. They were the daughters of John Dighton, an eminent surgeon, and his wife, Jane, daughter of Edward Bassett of Uley. The Bassetts were descendants of the Berkeleys of Gloucestershire, so that in the old limits of Taunton we have two towns bearing the name of the wife of Richard Williams and of the famous family from which she was descended. We have not yet the precise date of her birth, but she was baptized in the church of St. Nicholas, Gloucester, March 1, 1611 (O. S.) She survived her husband and all but two of her nine children, dying early in 1706, at the great age of ninety-five years. She was universally honored and beloved during her long life, and as a testimonial of the regard in which she was held, six years after her death, and in the centennial anniversary year of her birth, a part of the town of her adoption and in which she had dwelt more than the three score and ten years usually allotted as the limit of human life, was created a new town and named "Dighton" in her honor. I speak of her "in passing:" but when we consider the influences that must have gone out from

the life of so good a woman, who is entitled to more honorable mention, when "the First Settlers of Taunton" are eulogized, than Frances Dighton Williams?

Richard and Frances had two children born to them while living in the City of Gloucester; John, bap. March 27, 1634; Elizabeth, bap. Feb'y 27, 1635 (O. S.); both of whom died young.

These dates, with others already known, establish with great certainty that Richard Williams came to this country in 1636. His daughter was baptized in February of that year in Gloucester and he purchased land in Dorchester in 1637 and the same year became one of the original purchasers of Taunton. Question has been raised whether the Richard Williams, who bought land in Dorchester, was Richard Williams, later of Taunton; but there is no room for doubt, because Richard Williams of Taunton on October 20, 1646, sold one of the lots in Dorchester, and another lot "which fell to Richard Williams" in Dorchester, descended to, and was sold by, the great grandson of Richard Williams of Taunton.

Richard Williams and family must have been in Taunton in 1637, as he was one of the first purchasers at that date. The settlement of the place must have been made long enough before the incorporation of the town, to give assurance that it was to be permanent. John Richmond and John Hathway say in depositions (which I have not seen in print) that they came to Taunton in 1639, and that then John Gilbert, one of the original purchasers, "had a house down on the meadow, on the westerly side of Great River." It would seem that the settlement must have commenced immediately after the purchase, and the prominence of Richard Williams indicates that he was one of the first of the "First Settlers." I have not examined the grounds upon which the tradition, that he came to Taunton from Scituate, rests, but from the facts established by records, I am inclined to doubt its truth. But wherever he passed the time between his arrival in this country and 1639, it is certain that from that date till his death in 1692, more than half a century, he lived in Taunton an honorable and useful life, being almost continually entrusted with the management of public affairs, both religious and civil, and in all relations, commanding the respect, confidence and esteem of the community. He represented Taunton in the Colonial Court twelve years from 1645 to 1665, and was also one of the board of selectmen twelve years.

But whence did he originate? I have already stated that in my opinion he was not born in Wales, or, if he was, that he came to Gloucester when quite young.

The discovery, by Mr. Waters, of two wills, an abstract of which is given in the thirty-seventh volume of the Genealogical Register, gives us important and quite decisive information. One of the wills was made in 1650 by an unmarried sister of Richard Williams, and the other in 1695, by his nephew, the son of a deceased brother.

The sister, Jane Williams, mentions in her will, her brother, Samuel Williams, her brother Richard Williams and her sister Elizabeth Williams, "that are in New England"; Benjamin Williams and Nathaniel Williams, the sons of her brother Samuel; her sister, the wife of John Hall, and her children John, Samuel, Daniel and Susanna. The testatrix describes herself as of Whitenhurst, Gloucester—the place where Richard Williams lived before he went to America.

The nephew, who made the other will, was the Benjamin, son of Samuel, mentioned in the first will. He was a school master and lived in Surrey County. He mentions his cousins, the Hall children, named in Jane's will as "now or late of Whitenhurst in Co. Gloucester;" other cousins apparently on his mother's side; then his cousins, Samuel, Thomas and Benjamin Williams of New England; the eldest child of his cousin, Nathaniel Williams of New England, deceased; the eldest child of his cousin Joseph Williams, deceased; his cousin Elizabeth Bird of Dorchester, New England; the eldest child of his cousin, Hannah Parmater. He thus not only names all the children of Richard Williams, but he calls the daughters by their married names, and also mentions as "deceased" the two sons and one daughter of Richard Williams, who had then died. This will identifies the families beyond peradventure.

From both, we learn that Richard Williams had a brother Samuel, a sister Jane, who died unmarried, a sister who married John Hall, and a sister Elizabeth Williams, who, in 1650, was in New England. We learn, too, that they all lived in Gloucester and that the married ones had families there; and the presumption is very strong that they were all born there, or came there in childhood as one family. Moreover the clause in the nephew's will, in which he leaves a legacy to the poor of Whitenhurst in Gloucester, "any poor people of my father's kindred principally recommended" shows clearly that there were in that parish collateral kindred beyond those descended from his father's father, as he already made specific legacies to all of them. In the absence of other evidence, I hold with much confidence that the Williams family had lived in Gloucester several generations, when Richard Williams left his old home to seek a new one in New England.

It has been suggested that Roger Williams was the brother of Richard, or, at any rate, that Richard had a brother Robert, who married a sister of Roger Williams. The enumeration of the family in these two wills pretty fully demolishes both of these theories. In my researches I have found no evidence of their truth. As yet, however, no trace has been found of this "sister, Elizabeth Williams," who was in New England in 1650; it does not appear whether she was then married or single; all the tradition about Richard's having a brother may have arisen from the marriage of this sister, Elizabeth, with a husband by the name of Williams; but this is mere conjecture.

For fifty years after the incorporation of Taunton, there is in its records and history frequent mention of the name of Williams; but they were always Richard and his sons. But in 1688, Elias Williams witnessed a deed executed by William Makepeace, whose daughter Emmanuel Williams married, not many years later; and in 1796, the marriage of Charles Williams and Mary Gladding is recorded. These are in a contemporaneous group; and apparently Elias and Emmanuel either lived with William Makepeace or in his vicinity; still whether they, or any of them, were of one family is yet left almost wholly to conjecture. Beyond the record of the birth of a child, Charles made no further sign, and I have met with no further mention of Elias. But Emmanuel married, and in 1709 was included in the list of "Heads of Families" in Taunton; he died about 1719, leaving six children whose descendants still live in Dighton and New Bedford. But these Williamses were nearly of the same generation as Richard's grandchildren, and could scarcely have been the children of Elizabeth; in a word, her history is still a blank.

Richard Williams evidently named his first born, John, in honor of his wife's father. His naming his first daughter, Elizabeth, and the fact that he had a sister (apparently the oldest) by the same name, indicate that his own mother bore that name also. Considering, too, the practice in those times, the facts that Richard named his second son, Samuel, and that his older brother's name was the same, if I were endeavoring to trace his parents, I should look first for Samuel and Elizabeth Williams.

But this reminds me that my work is confined to his descendants, and I am happy to say that in spite of the deplorable loss of early records, with the generous aid I have received, I have had unexpected success, and I expect to add something to the materials for the history of Taunton.

And in this connection may I be allowed to express the hope, that in the near future, some son or daughter of Taunton, "to the

manor born," will undertake to write that history. My friend on my right (Rev. Mr. Emery) has already given us an exceedingly valuable and interesting history of the "Ministry of Taunton;" but there is yet a mine of historic wealth, almost wholly unexplored. Few towns in the whole country afford materials for a history so well worth writing as "Ancient Taunton." It is a duty which this generation owes both to the past and to the future to prevent the loss of these materials. I trust you will allow my recently discovered relationship to be a sufficient justification for my pressing this matter most earnestly upon your attention.

Does some one ask "*cui bono?*" What good will result? For answer, I point to the wonderful growth and prosperity of your city and her sister towns, founded by that little colony two centuries and a half ago, and, in turn, ask what have been the causes? Will not the same causes continue in the future to produce the same results?

It has been well said that "Eulogies of the dead are useful only as lessons to the living." So the history of the past is useful only as a guide to the present and the future.

The history of "the First Settlers" shows that with them came the minister and the school master; their earliest laws denounced idleness and dissipation. The foundations, which they laid for the success of their enterprise, were industry, sobriety, education and religion; to know how well they succeeded we have only to look around us. To continue this success, you must continue to build upon the same foundations; and in earnestly bespeaking for you, growth and prosperity, equal to your most ardent hopes, I can best do so by expressing the wish that when another "two hundred and fifty years" has rolled away and your descendants of that day and generation shall assemble to celebrate the event, they may be able to say truly, "As the First Settlers founded, so have their successors builded."

Our next toast shall be "Taunton in the Revolution," and I am happy to present to you one who bears with undiminished honor the name of his great-grandfather, the adopted son of Taunton, who was one of the immortal signers of the Declaration of Independence; Robert Treat Paine.

RESPONSE BY HON. ROBERT TREAT PAINE.

Mr. Chairman:—

I rejoice in the privilege of being here to share in the pleasures of this great day, and to be inspired by the reminiscences of our glorious past,

I come with the feelings of a wanderer returning to the old home from which 108 years ago my great grandfather wandered away, but I read on the great arch which you have thrown across your Main street the cordial words, "Sons and Daughters, Welcome Home."

I am glad to have listened to the profoundly interesting address of the Orator of the Day, your distinguished fellow citizen and my honored friend, and to have heard his vivid account of the growth of this wonderful quarter millennial period.

No wonder that after we pass from the Platform of History to the freer festivities of this Hall of Banquet, we feel tempted to let the American Eagle scream just a little with irrepressible delight and even ourselves to give again that famous American Toast.

Even while we are celebrating this and our recent centennial anniversaries, some of our countrymen have gone abroad to witness similar centennials in France.

How can we help comparing our growth in prosperity with the decay which is seen in parts of Europe.

Only this week we read of workmen leaving Italy in such numbers as almost to depopulate some places, and we know how the intolerable burdens of taxation crush their energies and how homes are emptied of their young men drafted into their great standing army.

Turn for a moment to the striking contrast of France to the United States now and in the days of our Revolution.

Then France was rich in all the accumulations of wealth and art and poetry and cultivated life. Massachusetts was bare indeed! Rich only in the character of its citizens, but otherwise in the condition of barest need described by Shakespeare:—

"Oh reason not the need;
Allow not nature more than nature needs.
Man's life is cheap as beasts."

Shay's Rebellion grew out of the dire distress into which a large part of our people were plunged when the war was over and the army disbanded and the payments for the war had ceased. Perhaps it was true of Taunton as it was said of some towns, that there was not actually money enough in the whole town to pay the tax. What a wonderful contrast in these two nations physically!

Washington and Napoleon were types of the two national characters. Each nation rose under its great leader to a place of high honor before the eyes of the world.

The aim of Washington was honorable peace and a stable government of the people.

That of Napoleon was brilliant war and successful conquest. The aims of each were accomplished, but what has been the harvest?

Washington's name has risen in the affectionate honor of the world, till to-day men like Gladstone proclaim that the loftiest pedestal in the history of the world belongs to Washington, and the character which he typified and helped to impress on our country, has become our noblest inheritance, but in France in less than sixty years after his warlike uncle's death, the younger Napoleon, in needless and fatal war lost at the disastrous defeat at Sedan, besides his own throne, the accumulated glory which it had taken France ten centuries to acquire.

No wonder that to-day France is ready to cast itself in despair into the arms of an exiled charlatan.

What are the great causes of this tide of prosperity which has changed the face of Taunton and of Massachusetts from the gloom of Shay's Rebellion to the abounding wealth of to-day?

What are the deep causes of this even more striking contrast of character between France and our country?

Were there not four noble traits of character which had long been growing strong but which were fully matured in the great days of the Revolution, when this nation like a young giant was just rising out of youth into full life?

Shall we not put first, as the most prominent feature of our national character in those days, as ever since, fixed, resolute, indomitable Will?

Who can conceive how sad would have been our fate and how striking the contrast if the national character had been weak vacillation!

Was not the second great trait the strong sense of Justice, in both directions: yielding justice towards others, (what more striking illustration and proof of the spirit of justice than in the account we listened to this morning from Judge Bennett of how every inch of land in Taunton was acquired of the Indians with absolute honesty, a fact I was surprised and delighted to hear;) and also demanding justice for themselves at all hazards, at any cost or sacrifice, without purchase or concession; proclaiming to the world their rights, and pledging their lives and fortunes and sacred honor to maintain them.

The third great trait of the character of those days was profound religious faith which in every event of life, looked to God for support, a spirit which was powerfully manifested on many oc-

casions in the early life of Taunton, as told in the address this morning and which we have just heard wonderfully described in the address from Dr. Dexter.

The last great trait of character which in my judgment molded the life of those days and of these, is a profound spirit of hopefulness:—which could listen to Jonathan Edwards and still love God: which could throw overboard the tea and still be calm; which wrestled with all the varying problems of a life somewhat severe and still was full of hope.

If to-day I were searching for that trait which like Aladdin's magic lamp, is most potent to improve the lot and physical career of the masses of the people, the habit of hope seems to me most able to accomplish this grand consummation.

Are not these the four great characteristics of the times and lives of our fathers?

Strong, fixed, indomitable will which wrenched victory from any circumstances most adverse.

That sense of justice which has made this people love law and grow into the most law-abiding people in the world.

Firm religious faith has given depth and intensity to life and has inspired our race with the ennobling conviction that as we live in God, so God guides and supports us.

Soaring hope has lifted man's aspirations to lofty possibilities and grows into a mighty power to make possibilities our actual life. Even as no more fatal palsy can create the evil it dreads, than weak despair, so no force more potently creates what it desires than unwavering hope.

Fixed Purpose, Justice, Faith and Hope, these are the four corner-stones of American character. These are the noble qualities which were the bulwarks of our national life in the crisis of the Revolution and which were brought to full maturity in that long ordeal.

These are the qualities which are our strength to-day and which we rejoice to have inherited from our fathers' fathers and to believe that we shall transmit to our children's children.

These are the qualities which make great men. These are the qualities which are radiant with enduring promise, and which enable us to look into the future with head erect and eye toward Heaven, and hearts beating high with hope, as we repeat the bold prophecy of Tennyson in Locksley Hall.

“Forward, forward let us range;
Let the great World spin forever
Down the ringing grooves of change.”

This seems to be a good time to hear from our Orator of the Day, whose admirable address was just what we expected from one who always does his work so thoroughly and well. Let me introduce to you the Hon. Edmund H. Bennett.

RESPONSE BY HON. E. H. BENNETT.

Mr. Toastmaster:—

I rise, sir, at your bidding, but not to make a second address to an audience which has already heard me for two mortal hours and more. I am aware it is customary on these occasions to call up the Orator of the Day, as he is sometimes styled, but who might on this occasion more properly be called simply the "Historical Addresser." Such a custom is one of those perhaps "more honored in the breach than in the observance," were it not that it properly limits the response to thanking the audience for their patient attention and kind consideration in listening to his previous effort of the day. This is especially fitting in this case, because of the very extraordinary but necessary length of my address, which not only must have sorely tried the patience of the hearers, but which has left my voice in a condition totally unfit for any longer service. Thanking you for the courtesy of your request, and all here present for their patient attention to, and tender interest in what I had to say this morning, I beg to be excused from saying more.

We do not intend to lag behind the statelier ceremonies of the morning in paying our homage to the Muse. A poem written by one of Taunton's gentle poets, Miss Mary E. N. Hatheway, will now be read by the Rev. John P. Forbes:—

THE OLD COLONISTS.

Let us recall them to-day,
With reverence due their degree,—
Men who through hardship and toil
Opened the Land of the Free.

Leaving their country and kin,
Stations of plenty and pride,
Slender in number their bands,
They crossed the ocean-track wide.

Reaching these unchristened shores,
Bleak in their barren repose,
Girded by forests untrod
Save by the footsteps of foes;
But steadfast in courage and heart
To face the known and unknown,
United in purpose they stood,
And chose the New World for their own;
Turning not back in despair
When pressed with want and disease:
Not famine, disaster nor death,
Could daunt such spirits as these.
Valiant the birthright they owned.
Saxon, Norman and Dane,
Blent in their English blood,
Molding their fibre and brain.
Lovers of justice and law,
They gave defiance and hate
To error, and tyrannous sway
Ruling in Church or in State.
Faith in the guidance Divine,
Faith in man's knowledge of Right,
Led them in peril and peace,
Wrought in their labors with might.
Simple in order they built
Altars of Learning and Home,
Fairer than sculptures of fame,
Arch or imperial dome.
Time, the searcher of lives,
Their work has measured and weighed,
And over their memory sheds
Honor that never can fade.
Liberty, star of their hope,
Worshipped through storm-beaten days,
Risen full-orbed in the West,
Now lightens the earth with its rays.
Seed which in darkness they sowed,
Tending with vigils and prayer,
Through all the ages shall grow,
Harvests immortal to bear.

At this time of good feeling and good cheer we will have no quarrel about Elizabeth Pool and her peck of beans. Our historians who throw doubt on that story are tied to the traditions of Plymouth Rock, where they undoubtedly never had a bean. For do we not frequently read in the chronicles of the colonists the brief but significant legend, "Nota Bene"? Now Elizabeth Pool came from Boston or its immediate vicinity; and without doubt brought with her for her Sunday dinner a supply of those delicious vegetables which have always been a distinguishing feature of Boston culture. And it is fair to presume that in making her trade with the aborigines, she threw in a few beans as a delicate token of her "bean"eficent spirit towards the poor Indians. So let critics no longer peck at that peck of beans story.

If I am not right in these conclusions let me be aided and counselled by the most worthy president of the Old Colony Historical Society, a society which in its thirty-five years' existence has done excellent service in rescuing our local history from oblivion and from falsehood which is worse than oblivion. But as my friend has been doing two men's work all his life, I am going to call on him to respond not only for the Old Colony Historical Society, but also for the Ministry of Taunton, of which he has himself been so large a part, the Rev. Samuel Hopkins Emery.

RESPONSE BY REV. S. H. EMERY.

Mr. Toastmaster:—

You very well know that I persistently refused to answer any sentiment, for the very good reason that none of the precious time of this memorable occasion should be wasted on one, who is but a relic of a past generation and who might better form a part of the loan exhibition over yonder in Historical Hall. But your persistence, it seems, proves more than mine, and here I am in the presence of this most respectable company, called upon to speak for the "Ministry of Taunton."

Having already, some years ago, published all I knew on this prolific theme in two bulky volumes, I will not presume to enlarge—certainly not to the extent of issuing a new edition of that work in an after dinner speech of two or five minutes, when we are all anxious to hear from our eminent visitors from abroad, one of whom, the present chief magistrate of our sister state of Rhode Island, sits by my side.

I will content myself with expressing my extreme satisfaction at taking by the hand to-day a direct descendant, of the seventh generation, from that most eminent first settler and father of the ancient Cohannet, Richard Williams, (at the same time grasping the hand of the Hon. Josiah H. Drummond of Portland, Maine, who sat next to him) my satisfaction also, at looking into the face of another, sitting yonder, the Rev. George E. Street, of Exeter, New Hampshire, who is directly descended, in the seventh generation, from the Rev. Nicholas Street, the eminent associate of the no less eminent William Hook, in the first pastorate of the Taunton church.

This descendant has the distinguished honor likewise, of being a direct descendant, on his mother's side, of the famous John Davenport of New Haven and Boston—which Davenport had for his colleague in New Haven, first Hook and afterward Street, who also became his successor in the ministry. The first two Taunton ministers, Oxford graduates in Old England, were learned and godly ministers, ranking among the foremost Divines in this, then new world.

In passing, I may say, in a letter just received from Mr. Edwin Sloper, the well known antiquarian of the mother town, Taunton, Somersetshire, England, expressing his regret at not being able to be with us to-day, he writes:—"Had I been able to participate in your welcome gathering, it was my intention to read a short paper on 'old Taunton' and how a tribe of incoming Saxons settled in the Dean and made it their home in the seventh century. I think I should also have been capable of nearly proving that Street gave the name to your town."

Well, if he did not give our town its name, we know the Spring street bridge bore his name, and, although superseded by another and a better may well be called Streets Bridge, for the minister's homestead was by its side.

But I must hasten on, and—out of respect to that virgin mother of Taunton, the gentlewoman, who, if she did not buy the town in its beginning, was as Robert Treat Paine wrote of her, "a chief promoter of its settlement," and should be held in everlasting remembrance, Miss Elizabeth Pole—I will ask your atten-

tion to the production, in verse, of one of the daughters of Taunton, ever loyal to the good old town and a lover of its hills and brooks—its every foot of soil and drop of running water—Miss Anna Dennis Reed.

I may add, these lines were prepared specially for this occasion, and made to be sung to the melody of "Sweet Afton," but you will hardly expect a song from one, who long ago hung his harp on the willows.

To present residents on Mill river, it may not be necessary to say, that the "Sweet Taunton," which is the subject of our song, is not that stream but the larger, grander, sweeter stream, on which are built the Taunton Water Works, and which has long borne the name of "Taunton Great River," to distinguish it from inferior, smaller streams.

Flow gently, sweet Taunton, thy bright course along,
Flow gently, sweet river, the theme of my song,
For planted along by thy silvery tide,
Are the happiest homes in all the world wide.

We love thee, sweet River; thy banks are as green,
As when by brave Winslow and Hopkins first seen;
The sturgeon and shad still in summer are here,
And herrings make glad the spring-time of the year.

Flow gently, for oft by thy murmuring stream,
The maiden and lover have breathed life's young dream;
Flow gently, the wise and the fair of lang syne,
Have wandered so oft on those green banks of thine.

Sweet River, so long as thy tides ebb and flow,
And o'er thy clear water the cooling winds blow,
Thy name for fond memories and hopes will be dear,
To all who find peaceful and happy homes here.

For many years and until our vigorous sister city on Mt. Hope Bay came in for her thirds, Taunton divided with New Bedford the honors of the Shire town of the County. We want to hear to-day from this our twin shire and I call upon her distinguished citizen, the Hon. William W. Crapo.

RESPONSE BY HON. W. W. CRAPO.

Mr. Chairman:—

Manufacturing New Bedford brings greetings to maritime Taunton. The City of the Sea joins in the general congratulations and with hearty good wishes recognizes the importance of the merchant marine of the City at the head waters of Taunton

River. The web-footed denizens of Buzzards Bay are a trifle perplexed as they hear of the growth of vessel ownership in this inland community. How comes it that while our tonnage fades yours increases? You do not hear the music of the waves as they roll upon the beach; you do not gather inspiration from the breakers dashing against the rocks. You must have learned the story of the sea from the herrings, as in the spring time they climb your fish ways on their journey to the spawning grounds. While your sister shiretown has put the earnings of many generations, gathered from the Brazil banks and the Gallipagos Islands, from New Zealand and the Arctic, into hundreds of thousands of cotton spindles, the proceeds of your labor and thrift find investment in a fleet of magnificent sailing vessels which in model and carrying capacity is the envy of every sea port. May your pluck and enterprise in this direction meet, as it deserves, with continued and abundant success.

But on this occasion we turn from the present, however prosperous and promising, to the contemplation of the past. Our thoughts go back to the first beginnings of this model New England Community, as we listen to the story of its founders, so eloquently told by the Orator of the day. The men who penetrated the wilderness and built their cabins on the banks of your beautiful river were hardy, sturdy, earnest men who had a purpose which unselfishly and heroically they maintained. We need not repeat the phrases which describe their qualities and virtues. They were God-fearing, self-reliant men. They have never been excelled for inflexible integrity of character. With toil and self-denial they met unflinchingly the exigencies which surrounded them. History furnishes no instance of public honor and individual self-sacrifice surpassing that of our fathers at the close of the Indian Wars which devastated this region. After a struggle for existence, in which the mother Country had rendered no assistance, but with strange indifference had left the Colonists to fight single-handed against savagery; with numbers decimated and homes desolated by the tomahawk and the torch, the pioneer men of the old Colony proved themselves as honest as they had been brave. With a public debt greater in amount than the value of the entire personal property within the Colony they paid that debt, not in paper promises, but with gold and silver coin, uncomplainingly asking no abatement. These men as they saw their duty performed it. If their public administrations were at times marked with austerities, they were never marred by compromises and were free from evasions. Whatever the issue presented, they met it squarely. There was no mistaking the meaning of your David

Cobb when, standing in front of the Court House, facing the armed malcontents who demanded the abandonment of the Court, he said, "I will sit as a Judge or I will die as a General." And he did sit as a Judge. The men who inaugurated civil government in the Old Colony may not have been, in details and methods, as broad-minded and liberal as the men of the present day, but they were clean handed and brave hearted. Whatever their limitations they stood by the principles of uprightness and strict justice and old fashioned honor, and the result, after the lapse of two hundred and fifty years, is a proud, powerful, influential Commonwealth, leading the nations in moral and mental elevation of the people and in the triumphs of social order.

In many things we are in advance of our fathers. In these days a man may believe in his religion and allow every other man the same liberty: a man may practice piety without feeling it necessary to practice persecution. The intolerance of the past has been softened by liberality. We have lifted and broadened the social, moral and intellectual life of all the people, and in countless ways have beautified humanity by works of philanthropic enterprise. These are results expected of us from the training and teachings, the wisdom and virtue of the past. The foundation upon which rest the progress and glory of the present was laid in the character and struggles of the early settlers. By their example we have been strengthened, encouraged and cheered. The duty which devolves upon us, in meeting the fortunes and trials which are before us, is to keep up the standard of public virtue which they established.

The Military Record of Taunton:—The first military order issued in Taunton was given in 1639, and was to the effect that "Capt. Pole exercise the inhabitants in armes." That order having been issued to an infant colony, the natural result, of course, has been that babes in Taunton have been exercised in arms ever since. The next notable military order (of which I care now to speak,) was when Brig. Gen'l and Judge David Cobb cried aloud near the court house steps, "I will sit as Judge or die as General." The result of that has been that a kernel from the same Cobb has cried aloud in the court house ever since, or at least for the last generation.

Having brought you in this expeditious manner out of ancient history, I refer you, for the later record, to the brave and tried soldier of the last war, Capt. Geo. A. Washburn.

RESPONSE BY CAPT. GEO. A. WASHBURN.

The history of Taunton in the early wars has been eloquently told by the Orator of the Day. In the few moments allotted to me I can only give a very brief review of Taunton's work in the great Rebellion. At the outbreak of this war, this city, then a town, had one company of Volunteer Militia, Co. "G," attached to the 4th Regiment of Infantry.

It had but one commander from its organization, until the close of its service for the first three months of the war, Captain Timothy Gordon. This company was ordered into service by special messenger on the morning of April 16, 1861—the requisition from Washington upon the Governor of this Commonwealth for twenty companies having been telegraphed to Boston on the day previous, April 15. On the 27th day of April, eleven days after the departure of Co. "G," a legal town meeting was held and the town voted to furnish each soldier who should enlist from Taunton a full uniform, to pay him \$15, and such a sum as should make his pay \$26 a month. The committee appointed consisted of Thompson Newbury, Samuel L. Crocker, Henry Williams, Lovett Morse, Harrison Tweed, L. B. Church and S. O. Dunbar.

During the absence of this company at Fortress Monroe and vicinity, the most vigorous measures for recruiting a three years' regiment from this vicinity were pursued. The Seventh Regiment of Infantry was the result. This regiment was mustered in June 15th, 1861, for three years. The colonel was a soldier whom Taunton has always honored, Darius N. Couch. In this year, 1861, five companies distinctively belonging to Taunton were recruited, Companies C, D and F, of the 7th Regiment, Company B, 18th Regiment, Company C, 22d Regiment. Taunton furnished men in other companies in the same regiments.

The cost to the town in 1861, was bounties, 5,085.00, other expenses, 12,782.28, a total of \$17,867.28; and 493 men enlisted, of whom 154 received no bounty.

The same methods of recruiting were followed in 1862, that is, local companies were recruited so that the regiments raised prior to July, 1863, contained companies enlisted entirely from a locality and whose members had been former associates.

In 1862, Co. B, 33d Regiment, Capt. James Brown; Co. F, 39th Regiment, Capt. J. J. Cooper, both companies enlisting for

three years, and Co. G, Capt. C. H. Paull and Co. K, Capt. W. H. Bartlett both attached to the 4th Regiment and whose term of service was nine months, were recruited.

On the 14th of August, 1862, at a town meeting, it was voted, that a bounty of \$200, be paid to each volunteer, enlisting for three years. At a meeting held August 26, it was voted that a bounty of \$100 be paid to each volunteer, for nine months, these bounties to be paid to those soldiers who enlisted as a part of the quota of Taunton. The number enlisting in 1862 was 170 three years men, and 166 nine months men. Bounties paid, \$65,800.00, other expenses, \$500, total, \$66,300.00.

It would seem that by January, 1863, the military ardor had much abated, and that voluntary enlistments had almost ceased. It had been discovered that other methods than voluntary enlistments must be adopted to fill the ranks and this contingency Congress provided for by law. On the 29th day of April, 1863, Capt. J. W. D. Hall, was appointed Provost Marshal of the 2d District. His associates upon the Board were Nathaniel Wales of Stoughton and Henry B. Hubbard, M. D., of Taunton.

The first draft was held in Taunton, July 15, 1863, and the first man drafted from Taunton was Alfred Martin. The entire number of men drafted was 3,260; exempted for various causes, 1,880; number drafted who served in person, 64; recruits furnished, 569; substitutes, 643; amount of commutation paid by drafted men, \$94,800. One result or out-come of the draft was a great stimulation of those liable to involuntary service.

On the 3d of December, 1863, a meeting of citizens was held in the interest of those liable to draft and a committee chosen consisting of T. Newbury, H. Tweed, S. L. Crocker, S. O. Dunbar, L. B. Church, E. H. Bennett, Jas. Brown, Sam'l A. Dean, C. L. Lovering, Alex. Hodges, Alfred Paull and N. S. Williams. On the 17th of December following, another meeting was held and Geo. M. Woodward was chosen treasurer, to receive contributions which committees chosen at the foregoing meetings were actively soliciting. The number of men enlisted in 1863 was 308; bounties paid, \$26,505; other expenses, \$439.56

In the spring of 1864, Allen Presbrey, Abram Briggs and Nathan S. Williams were elected selectmen. Messrs. Briggs and Williams, together with Capt. Wm. H. Phillips, were constituted by the citizens a board of trustees to have entire charge of recruiting, to receive and hold moneys contributed and to expend the same in filling the quotas. Geo. A. Washburn was chosen secretary and treasurer of this board and so continued until the close of the war. By the active exertions of this Board, drafts were averted.

the quotas promptly filled and while many towns in the state lost heavily by reason of having their recruits taken from them fraudulently, it is believed that Taunton held all its own and "a little over." The total quotas of Taunton for 1864 were 356; bounties paid, \$84,803; other expenses, \$804.39; total in 1864 \$85,607.39. Enlistments continued without cessation in the spring of 1865 and unremitting efforts were made to avert a draft. Agents were employed among the veteran regiments to secure re-enlistments in the field. But little idea of the labors performed by the selectmen and the recruiting committee can be conveyed in this short sketch, nor can it now be comprehended to what extent a dread of the draft pervaded the whole community.

The total number of men furnished by Taunton upon calls and requisitions for troops, including 159 men assigned in the navy, who had enlisted before quotas were thought of was 1,652, at a total cost of \$196,719.23. The citizens contributed \$62,383.00, showing a net cost to the town of \$134,336.23.

No sooner had the war closed than Taunton prepared to pay its war debt, which, exclusive of assets, was at the close of the war \$112,000. Under the administration of Hon. E. H. Bennett, the debt was funded on a term of ten years, bonds were issued for \$100,000, and the notes existing, mostly on short time, were paid, and a sinking fund, with annual instalments to be raised by taxation created. This fund was so well invested, that in seven years after its establishment, or in 1873, during the administration of Hon. Wm. H. Fox, the last assessment was made, and in Hon. Geo. H. Babbitt's administration the debt was paid.

The payments for bounties during 1861 and 1862 were of more than doubtful legality, yet such was the necessity of the occasion, that the people became a law unto themselves and loans were made and the proceeds paid from the treasury with little sanction or question of law. But, the debt was long since paid and is a thing of the past.

Before closing, I wish to say a few words concerning Co. "F," 1st Regiment, our present sole company of militia. It should have the abundant support of the community. The militia is the school. Wm. Schouler, adjutant general of Massachusetts during the entire war, says that Taunton furnished fifty-nine commissioned officers during the Rebellion. When you consider that not less than twenty-five of this number were graduates of the Taunton Light Guard, and went to Fortress Monroe, with that Company, you can realize the advantage of maintaining a good militia company in your midst. So, let Company F have such an interest with you, that its stability shall not be questioned.

Taunton in the great Rebellion did her whole duty. She filled every quota and had sixty three men to spare at the end of the war. We have reason to be proud of her record.

In this brief recital I have no time for a rehearsal of much that would interest you. It all seems like a dream and were it not that you see in your midst those organizations, the Grand Army of the Republic whose members bear on their persons honorable scars, and the Sons of Veterans, we might in the enjoyment of our great prosperity, forget that the war cloud ever hung so low above us, or that our homes were draped in black by reason of sorrow for our young men who died on the field of battle.

In our Historical Hall is an old flag, worn to fragments almost, yet about whose every fold lingers a tender memory. It is the flag of old Company "G" which first of all went from your midst. On it is borne this legend: "*Fidelity to duty, whenever it may call, wherever it may lead.*"

So may it always be with our own ancient town and in time to come as in the past may she always be found in the van when duty calls.

The Taunton Lawyers:—One only needs to mention the names of White, Tillinghast, Paine, Parsons, Merrick, Colby, and Morton, to show how illustrious the Taunton Bar has been. In speaking of the Bar of to-day, modesty compels me to use the words of another:

"The fathers sleep, but men remain
As wise, as true, as brave as they;
Why count the loss and not the gain?
The best is that we have today."

If any one questions the aptness of this quotation, I beg leave to refer him to one who has full liberty to speak for himself and his brethren; the Hon. William E. Fuller, Judge of the Probate Court.

RESPONSE BY HON. W. E. FULLER.

How can I worthily speak of that profession whose history in this ancient shire town includes the career of Samuel White, first lawyer in Bristol County and by character and attainments fit to be the first,—whose fame it was as speaker of the Massachusetts House of Representatives during the Stamp Act, to sign the circular calling the first Colonial convention, meeting in New York in

1765; of Robert Treat Paine, signer of the Declaration,—attorney general both before and after the revolution, member of the Governor's Council, and a Judge of the Supreme Court; of Daniel Leonard who, though a loyalist in the revolution and becoming a political exile, achieved the distinction of becoming Chief Justice in a foreign land; of John Mason Williams, Chief Justice of the Court of Common Pleas; of the elder Marcus Morton, Congressman, Judge of the Supreme Judicial Court, Governor of the Commonwealth; of Francis Baylies, Congressman, foreign minister, scholar, historian; of Chester I. Reed, who, though dying at middle age, had achieved high distinction at the bar, and had filled the positions of senator, attorney general, and Judge of the Superior Court; and (if I may be pardoned for mentioning the living) of the learned doctors Bennett and Ordronaux, eminent law scholars and authors known wherever the common law is known.

And I may add that our Bar claims a certain kinship with, and feels a just pride in that distinguished son of Taunton, whose hereditary instinct for the law, whose learning, long experience and high character as a jurist sheds fresh lustre upon a name long noted in the Old Colony, and adds new honor to the preeminent position of Chief Justice of the Commonwealth; nor let me close this shining roll before I name Henry Goodwin, practicing here near the close of the last century, and later, attorney general in a neighboring state; David Leonard Barnes, his contemporary who became Judge of the United States District Court for the State of Rhode Island; Seth Padelford, for a quarter of a century Probate Judge in Bristol County and widely known in his time as a sound and trustworthy councillor; and it may be of interest to lawyers to recall that he was first president of the first Bar Association organized in the Old Colony, including in its membership the lawyers of Plymouth, Bristol and Barnstable; properly too may I name George T. Davis, in practice here in 1831 and afterwards a Massachusetts Senator and a representative in Congress from the Greenfield District; Pliny Merrick, who with high distinction filled in turn the office of Judge both of the Common Pleas and of the Supreme Judicial Court; Theophilus Parsons, son of the great Chief Justice of that name, a law partner at one time with Francis Baylies and afterwards Dane Professor in the Law School of Harvard University, and well known as lecturer and an author of several law text books; H. G. O. Colby, author of the Massachusetts Practice and Judge of the Court of Common Pleas; and Horatio Pratt, well remembered by the older members of the bar as a formidable antagonist, and for a time Commonwealth's Attorney in this district.

Need I name Henry Williams, whose recent death we deplore, a man of refined manners, of scholarly tastes, of unswerving rectitude and greatly interested in our local history. He was Vice President of the Old Colony Historical Society and a member of the committee appointed to take preliminary measures for this celebration. At the time of his death, he was the senior member of the Bristol County Bar. Many years ago he represented this district during two terms of Congress. He was also a member of the last Massachusetts State Constitutional Convention. He was a descendant in the seventh generation of Richard Williams, foremost among those early settlers of Cohannet whom we this day especially honor.

I may also mention that Samuel Sumner Wilde, who for thirty five years was a Judge of the Supreme Judicial Court, was a native of Taunton. He studied law here in the office of Judge Barnes but removed to the State of Maine before entering the Bar.

And what citizen of Taunton whose memory goes back to a period before the war will not recall the venerable form of Anselm Bassett, the veteran of the bar—who was in active practice nearly fifty seven years, covering the entire official terms of Chief Justices Parsons, Sewall, Parker and Shaw.

The former lawyers of Taunton:—in response to the call on this memorable day what familiar names rise up in the memory.

There were Breck and Burgess son of Tristram, Cushing and Cobb son of the sturdy old General, Dean, Danforth and Ellis and Hodges, Sanford, District Attorney, and the Sproats in three generations, filling the office of Clerk of Courts in two, Tillinghast and Townsend and Vickery. All these and perhaps others whom my memory now fails to summon from the shades of the past, have in their day and generation according to the measure of their ability and honor aided in administering the law among the citizens of Taunton.

“The Mayors’ Club”:—Taunton has been a city for twenty four years but it is only for three years that her mayors have belonged to a convivial crowd called the Mayors’ Club. Many of that club we are glad to see with us to-day, and I am going to call on the president of the club to tell us how our mayors behave when they get away from home. I present to you the Hon. Hugh O’Brien of Boston.

RESPONSE BY HON. HUGH O'BRIEN.

Mr. President :—

I consider it a great privilege to be present on this occasion, to unite with you in celebrating your two hundred and fiftieth anniversary, and to congratulate you on the growth and prosperity of the past two hundred and fifty years.

As President of the Mayors' Club, I am also authorized to extend to you the heartiest greetings from every city in the Commonwealth. We all rejoice in your prosperity. Quite a number of the mayors are present, and if it were not for the unfavorable weather almost every city in the Commonwealth would have been represented by her chief magistrate. Your toastmaster alludes to the social feature of the Mayors' Club. On this point I will merely say that we are guided largely by the temperance principles of your excellent chief magistrate.

The city of Taunton possesses many natural advantages for building up manufacturing industries, but these advantages would not amount to much were it not for the enterprise, the industry and the integrity of your business men. In Boston we feel the influence of this enterprise. One of the finest structures in Boston to-day, the Mason Building, was erected by one of your leading manufacturers from the product of his workshop in Taunton. It was the pioneer of those large buildings now in process of erection and in contemplation, and has added largely to our taxable valuation. As your historian very truly remarked, in his very able and eloquent address, that Taunton was largely indebted to citizens of Dorchester, now a prominent part of Boston, for its early settlement, it is very proper now for the wealthy citizens of Taunton to help us build up the leading commercial city of New England, the home of many of their ancestors.

These centennial celebrations are events that forcibly recall the past landmarks that mark our progress. It was only a few weeks ago, when, in the great city of New York, we celebrated the one hundredth anniversary of the inauguration of President Washington. What a history these one hundred years recall. When Washington was inaugurated President in 1789, the population of the country was a little more than 3,000,000 people. Now, after the lapse of one hundred years our population is about 65,000,000 people. I repeat what a wonderful history, what a marvellous growth and prosperity! I should feel proud to-day, after listening to your honorable record and progress for the past two hundred and fifty years, if I could call myself a citizen of Taunton, but we must all feel proud that we are citizens of this great Republic whose growth and prosperity have been so wonderful.

You, citizens of Taunton, have reached the venerable age of two hundred and fifty years, but as a city your existence only goes back twenty-four years, and as a city you are youthful and vigorous. Your city is recognized by the Mayors' Club as one of the prominent cities of the Commonwealth, your municipal government has always been excellent, your schools and institutions of learning, your charitable institutions and your homes for the poor and unfortunate compare favorably with any other city in the state. We hope that this prosperity will continue for generations to come. I am aware that time is precious on these centennial celebrations and will detain you no longer.

The Press of Taunton, past and present:—You may now be thinking of our venerable fellow citizen who for forty years, as a faithful and efficient journalist gave us all the daily and weekly news we needed to know. Perhaps I ought not to call a man venerable whose step is still as elastic as a boy's, but it will have to be admitted that for about four score years he has stood erect under a name which, very appropriately, is a whole encyclopedia of the early settlers—John Williams Dean Hall. But Capt. Hall is now indulging his antiquarian tastes and has left editorial work to younger men. So upon a younger man I will call. I am happy to present to you the Hon. William Reed, Jr., of the Taunton Daily Gazette, who for the last seventeen years has labored with gratifying success to make his pen mightier than his—scissors.

RESPONSE BY HON. WILLIAM REED, JR.

Mr. Toastmaster, Ladies and Gentlemen:—

He who brings up the rear of an oratorical procession has as hard a place as the last straggler of an army corps. Hence the policy of brevity to escape from trouble as soon as possible. It will not take long to tell the story of the press of the early days of Taunton. There was none. The town had no newspaper from 1639 to 1820—a period of 181 years. The seaport settlements, with their varied mercantile interests, their men who were like those old Athenians—continually asking after some new thing—learned the value of ink and paper much sooner than the farmers

of the interior. The people of Taunton, like most of the rural neighborhoods, were content to depend upon Boston and Newport for glimpses of the outside world, and upon each other for the gossip of the village exchanged at the church door or the country store. In 1820 the first weekly newspaper was born, and it still lives in the Republican, vigilant and prosperous. In 1848 the first daily appeared—the Gazette—and that paper can speak for itself to-day much better than I can speak for it. Journalism once introduced became firmly rooted. Every appliance to expedite or lighten labor, gather or disseminate the news, was promptly adopted. The press grew with the town, and it can be safely said that the newspaper offices of Taunton are as well equipped to-day and as prompt to serve the public as those of any other provincial city of New England. That the press of Taunton will ever be ready to mirror the record of the day I can with assurance predict. That it will be the mainstay of the orator of the next centennial celebration is certain, and by its industry he will have a far easier time in groping among the shadows of the past than the eloquent gentleman who has done that work for us to-day. The press of the past and the present has been devoted to the best interests of the city. There will be no falling off in the efforts of the press of the future. It will go on from strength to strength.

His Excellency, Governor Herbert W. Ladd, of Rhode Island, being present, with his Staff, was prepared to respond for Rhode Island, as follows:—

This great anniversary, which we are celebrating, has more than a passing interest for me, for although the neighboring state of Rhode Island has adopted me, fostered and kindly invested me with honors far beyond my merits, I cannot forget that I am a Bristol County boy; that in the adjacent city of New Bedford I was born, reared and learned what it is to be an American citizen.

When I received the invitation to participate in these festivities with you, a pardonable feeling of pride took possession of me, and I looked forward with great pleasure to this visit to the old town of my youthful associations, which has a place of warm affection in my heart, and where I spent many pleasant hours. In reviewing its history, the wonderful power of endurance of the men and women at the time of its settlement is most forcibly brought to my mind. From all stations in life they came, from the daughter of a nobleman to the honest yeoman.

Just three years ago the good old City of Providence from which I came to-day, celebrated her 250th anniversary with similar

rejoicings and without any disloyalty to that dear little but sturdy State into which I have had the honor of being engrafted, I feel to-day the same pride that I felt on that occasion. I was proud of ancient Providence with her grand history of progress and I am proud to-day of having been born in the same county that contains this old Taunton of historic fame.

It gives me pleasure in behalf of Rhode Island to extend to Taunton and her good citizens the warmest congratulations on this happy event, and to hope that the prosperity of which there is such abundant evidence present, may continue.

The business and social relations existing between the people of Bristol County and Rhode Island are exceedingly close and intimate. Rhode Island has been very kind to the sons of Massachusetts. Three consecutive Governors were born in the Bay State, two of them in this Bristol County. There is my good friend Davis, most appropriately called "Honest John Davis" who was elected to the highest office in the State and who left behind him a most honorable record. He was born in Bristol County. Following him came Hon. Royal C. Taft whom many of you know and of whose faithful service the people of Rhode Island are still talking. He is a Massachusetts man. Last as I have said, New Bedford was my birthplace.

You cannot give too great honor to the memory of those who settled this town, and I feel assured that the next two hundred and fifty years will advance Taunton even more than the last have done.

Hon. Elijah A. Morse, Congressman elect from the Second Massachusetts District, was a guest of the city during the Celebration. He was prepared to respond to the toast,—“The Congress of the United States,” had the time permitted. By urgent invitation of the Committee, he furnished what he would have said, as follows:—

I feel honored by being invited as a guest upon this interesting occasion; but perhaps the emotion and inclination uppermost in all our hearts to-day would be to pause amid our festivities and let fall a tear of sorrow and sympathy with the sufferers by the sudden and appalling providence of God that has overtaken a section of our country. We cannot understand it, but we will obey the command, “Be still and know that I am God,” and “Shall not the Judge of all the earth do right?”

But, fellow citizens, I congratulate you upon this auspicious occasion, and in answer to my toast, and so far as I have the honor to represent Massachusetts as a Member of Congress from the Second District, I bring you salutations of the nation and the Commonwealth.

It seems almost impossible for us to roll back the tide of time for two hundred and fifty years and realize, in the language of another, that "where you now sit, surrounded by all that adorns and embellishes civilized life, the rank thistle nodded in the wind and the wild fox dug his hole unscares; beneath the same moon that now shines on you the Indian lover wooed his dusky mate, and here lived and loved another race of beings."

But why should you celebrate this day? Why should the sons and daughters of Taunton from every section, from every clime, from over the sea, return to their native town and city, to the home of their fathers? I remember to have read the reply of an Indian chief, a copper colored son of the forest, to the demand of a United States Commissioner that he and his people should leave their lands and remove to a distant reservation. The Red man pleaded, in pathetic tone, "that in this valley his tribe had lived for centuries; here they had held communion with the Great Spirit; they heard his voice in the thunder and in the rushing water; they saw his tears in the rain drops, and in this valley the bones of their fathers were buried." You can at least plead that here the bones of your fathers were buried, men who knew no fear but the fear of God.

It is said, that the sailors of Columbus on approaching this shore across a trackless and unknown ocean, detected strange, spicy and sweet odors in the air. They were still prisoners in their little ships, nothing but the boundless ocean in sight, shoreless, trackless, but they knew the land was near.

The unknown ocean of the future and eternity stretches out before you to-day, but in the reminiscences of the past you to-day recall the forms and faces of loved ones gone on before, and joyous anticipations of a heavenly reunion are wafted to you from the better land. Unseen hands are beckoning you to a higher, nobler, grander manhood and womanhood. "What mean ye by these stones?" In answer, I repeat a remark I made over the graves of our fallen comrades on Memorial evening, in yonder hall. The father of Hannibal once brought his son into the presence of the Carthaginian army, and on his bended knee taught him to swear eternal hatred to the Romans. Let us bring our sons and daughters to this Memorial occasion, and pledge them anew to everlasting love of liberty, of our free institutions, of our free schools, as

our fathers made them, and everlasting hatred of tyrants and oligarchies.

The Apostle Paul on his journey to Rome came to the place of Appii Forum, and the Three Taverns, and it is recorded the brethren came out to meet him, and "he thanked God and took courage."

Citizens of Taunton, you have struck the Three Taverns and Appii Forum to-day and on this Two Hundred and Fiftieth Anniversary, as you review the past and anticipate a glorious future, you may thank God and take courage.

George A. Shove, Esq., of Dighton, was prepared to respond to a call from the Toastmaster, for the "South Purchase," as follows:—

Mr. Toastmaster:—

I should prefer that a person more accustomed to public speaking than myself had been chosen to respond to this toast.

One of my ancestors, the Rev. George Shove, third minister of Taunton, and one of the grantees in the deeds from the Sachem Philip of the land that is now the town of Dighton, had some reputation for eloquence in the good Old Colony days, when, as Wendell Phillips once said, the air was black with sermons, but his mantle as an orator has not fallen upon myself.

If it were bleak November instead of early June, this occasion would remind one strongly of Thanksgiving time, when the children, after long absence, return to the old homestead to see the folks and enjoy a good dinner. Dighton, Berkley, Raynham, Norton, Easton and Mansfield, worthy children of Taunton, not a black sheep among them,—though it might be supposed by one who took all this bountiful preparation of fatted calves and other delicacies to be solely on their account, that they were long lost prodigals, over whom there was great rejoicing,—are all here to-day and bring their congratulations at the evidences of prosperity they see around them.

Of the many things for which Taunton is to be congratulated it is hardly my province to speak, even if time permitted, but I may mention, from its connection with this celebration, the Old Colony Historical Society, whose headquarters are one of the attractive resorts of the city. If such societies had been common in past ages history would be a more satisfactory study than it is. Hardly a year passes in which some of our long fixed beliefs, drilled into us at school, are not proved to be either false or apocry-

phal, so that it would not be very surprising if there were a prevailing Pyrrhonism in regard to many of the unassailable facts of history. And the iconoclasts are still at work smashing our idols. One of the latest assaults of these gentry is upon what has been considered an undoubted historical fact for many generations. We had hardly got used to the deposal of Cristoval Colon as the first discoverer of America, and the installation of Leif Ericsson, the Norseman, in his place, when now comes a French investigator who proves, at least to his own satisfaction, that America was not named for Amerigo Vespucci, but for the Amerique mountains, and that Vespucci's prenomem was not Amerigo but *Ameligo*.

Will there be any such doubt in the distant future over the prominent events of to-day as there is now over those of the remote past. It seems impossible, yet it may be that in that far off day when Macaulay's New Zealander shall be seen sitting on a broken arch of London Bridge sketching the ruins of St. Paul's, there will be a warm controversy somewhere on this planet over the question whether it was Harrison and Morton, or some other persons who were President and Vice President of the United States in this year of grace, 1889.

The main points in the history of Dighton have been given in Judge Bennett's able address and, after the feast of good things of which we have partaken, you would hardly thank me if I brought on a dish of dry dates. One of the Schlegels, I do not now recall which of the two philosophic German brothers it was, advanced the dictum that a historian should be a prophet looking backward. We are all historians, in a certain sense, to-day, and it will not be out of place for one of us, instead of going over the past to use the other prerogative of the historian and take a brief look into what the future probably has in store.

It needs no special gift of prophecy to believe that there are persons in this hall who, if Taunton encourages her manufacturing industries as she ought, will see within her corporate limits a population of a hundred thousand people. Her already magnificent fleet of coasters will have grown with her growth and will, perhaps, include vessels for foreign trade. The narrow, shallow, and tortuous channel up to the enterprising village at the Weir, which now lets out her larger craft—her inaccessibility to her own fleet reminding one of the jest about a shipwreck on the coast of Bohemia, an analogue to which would be a shipwreck on the coast of Oklahoma—will, long before the time we are considering, if it is not so already, be totally inadequate to the needs of her commercial maritime; where, then, will be the headquarters of her maritime activity? It will inevitably be at the nearest available point on

the river, which is at Dighton, where it ought to be now. The channel, at that place, runs for nearly two miles close to the shore, forming admirable sites for spacious wharves. The river broadens into a lake-like expanse; there is a fair depth of water now and, with a little outlay for dredging at two or three points, not enough to reduce our uncle's surplus to any alarming extent, there would be depth sufficient for even a five master, like the Governor Ames.

It is understood by those in a position to know that it would not be very difficult to induce the Old Colony Railroad Company to remove its upper bridge and find a way to Fall River and Newport for its western branch by way of the Slade's Ferry bridge, which would leave the way fairly open to the sea. As the port of entry and maritime headquarters of Taunton for large craft, Weir Village still being the headquarters for smaller vessels, Dighton would become a thriving seaport and would be to your city what Leith is to Edinburgh or the Piræus to Athens. Taunton would extend its avenues of residences and business blocks far down stream to meet more than half way its great need, an accessible seaport of its own close at hand. Then would be vindicated the judgment of Capt. Thomas Coram, founder of the city of Halifax and of the London Foundling Hospital, who, nearly two hundred years ago, came over from England and set up large shipyards in the Taunton South Purchase, now the town of Dighton.

Our town is now chiefly noted for two things—for the production of that luscious fruit, of which a quaint English writer made the oft quoted remark that "doubtless God could have made a better berry but doubtless God never did," and for having its name connected with that inscribed monolith, or bowlder, which lies, half buried in the mud on the eastern bank of the river, which has so long been a bone of contention to archæologists, and the rudely drawn characters on the face of which are so obscure and indeterminate that, with a little aid from the imagination, they may be made to support almost any theory as to their genesis.

When the changes that I have briefly touched upon—which is all that can be done in the few minutes allowed for this post-prandial talk—shall have been brought about by Father Time's whirligig, and that day may not be very distant, our town will be noted among other things, for the many gallant craft which will arrive at and clear from its wharves, for the manufacturing industries which will spring up in connection with its commerce, and for the hundreds of handsome villas which will adorn the slopes of its hills and the sides of its shaded avenues. It might, indeed, take on such a boom as to consider itself the city and look upon Taunton only as a suburb, (though I trust that none of the Tauntonians

present will be unduly alarmed at the suggestion,) in that case it could say to its parent as the bumptious youth, who had taken his father into partnership, said, as they stood admiring their new sign with its legend of Timpkins and Father in large letters, "me and you, old boy, will do a staving business."

I will close by offering this sentiment, may this occasion be the beginning of a closer union, socially and commercially, between Taunton and her river-child, her seaport that is to be, the pleasant, healthy and fertile township of Dighton.

Hon. John E. Sanford was invited to speak for the mother-town in Old England, which he had visited but declined. Also, Hon. Charles A. Reed, being called on to respond for the General Court, in both branches of which he had served, through lack of time, felt obliged to decline.

The decorations of the banqueting hall were all in good taste and under the direction of the chairman of the committee on decorations, Alderman Edward H. Temple. The table arrangements were successfully carried out by the committee on banquet, of which Alderman Charles S. Anthony was chairman. Reeves' American Band rendered choice selections during the progress of the feast. Too much cannot be said in praise of the Beethoven Society, which, under the leadership of Director Soule, both in the morning at Music Hall and in the afternoon at the banquet, rendered most excellent service. This Society since 1847* has been identified with the best interests of music in Taunton and its vicinity, having on its roll of membership such names as Crandell, Sproat, Hodges, Tinkham, Perry, Dunbar, Jackson, Taylor,

*In an interesting article, supposed to be by Capt. J. W. D. Hall, in the Union Gazette and Democrat, of Taunton, Jan. 29, 1874, it is stated "the Beethoven Society was organized in 1821." Among its members were "Abieser Dean, Jotham Colburn, Benj. Seaver, James and Wm. A. F. Sproat, Thomas C. Brown, Dea. Jazaniah Sumner, Zephaniah L. Hodges, Elias and Nathan Fisher, Gen. Cromwell Washburn, John W. Seabury, Wm. B. Crandell, Richmond Dean, Col. Adoniram Crane, of Berkley, Ellis Hall, Otis and Caleb S. Washburn, of Raynham, Julia Dean, Nancy Sproat, Abby Ingell, Eliza Seabury, Eleanor Dean, Mary Shaw, Nancy Hall, Polly Hood, Col. S. Forbes, of Bridgewater, was Director, Jotham Colburn, instrumental leader, and James Sproat, Secretary."

Oliver Shaw, who was eminent as a musician, originated in Taunton. The First Beethoven, afterward taking the name of Mozart, ceased to exist and the Beethoven of 1847 was virtually a new organization.

Dean, Soule, Winch, Bridgham, Abbott, Clemson, Goss, Woodward, Lovering, Rhodes, Paige, Cutler, Hayman, Monroe, Fuller, Lord, Totten, Richards, Reed, Wood, Fish, French, and hundreds of others which are now and for long years have been associated with song in this region. The rehearsals of this Society, under the direction of Mr. Zerrahn, largely contribute toward the success of the autumnal three days' festival of the South Eastern Massachusetts Musical Association; of this as of the Beethoven Society, Mr. Leander Soule is an active member, having belonged to the latter since 1851, and been a large part of the time its director. Wm. B. Crandell will long be remembered as the first president of the Beethoven Society in its re-organized form and a great promoter of music, both vocal and instrumental.

Taunton has not been wanting in musical composers since Sumner wrote his remarkable Ode on Science and had it sung in the latter part of the last century at the opening of Bristol Academy. Our recent celebration suggested the compositions which are to be found on the following pages. They were sung, with excellent effect, at intervals during the progress of the after-dinner exercises.

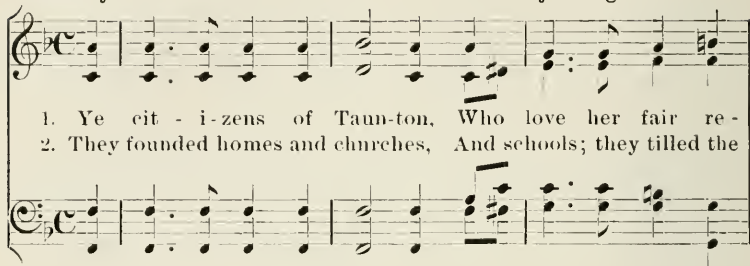
The Anniversary Ode was sung by the following quartette:—Mrs. Cora Elizabeth Rhodes, first soprano; Miss Emily Hayman, second soprano; Mr. Thomas Lord, tenor; Mr. Arthur Barton Totten, basso.

The Trio was rendered, under the direction of Mr. Soule, as follows:—First soprano, Mrs. Cora Elizabeth (Dyer) Rhodes, Mrs. Hannah Fifield Abbott, Miss Caroline Thomas Cutler; first alto, Mrs. Abbie Grinnell (Barrell) Goss, Mrs. Helen Otis (Briggs) Monroe, Mrs. Mary Louise (Park) Paige; second alto, Miss Elizabeth Speight Cutler, Miss Emily Hayman, Mrs. Martha (Allen) Hanson.

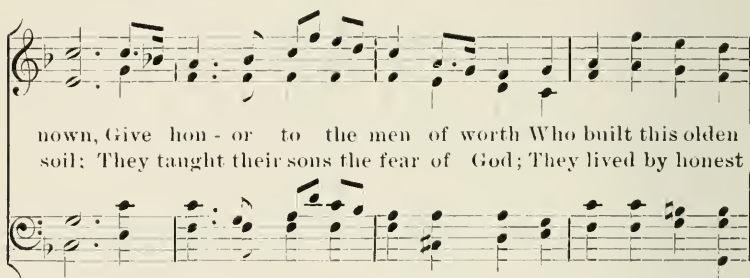
FESTIVAL ODE.

Words by Mrs. Eleanor S. Deane.

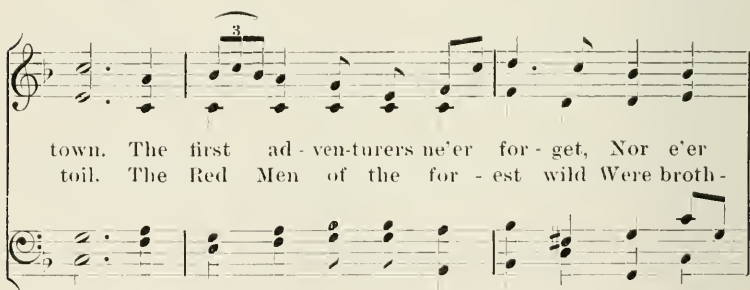
Music by George W. Dean.



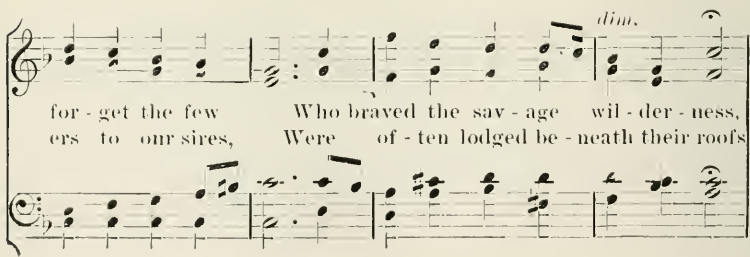
1. Ye cit - i - zens of Taun-ton, Who love her fair re -
2. They founded homes and churches, And schools; they tilled the



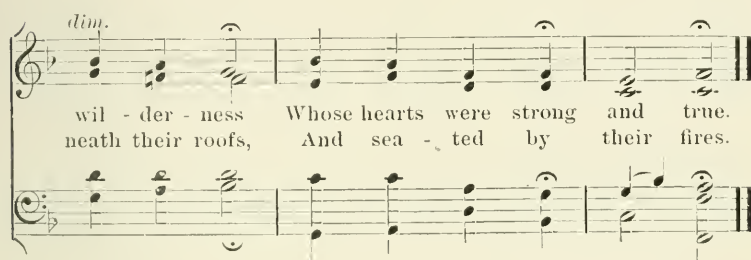
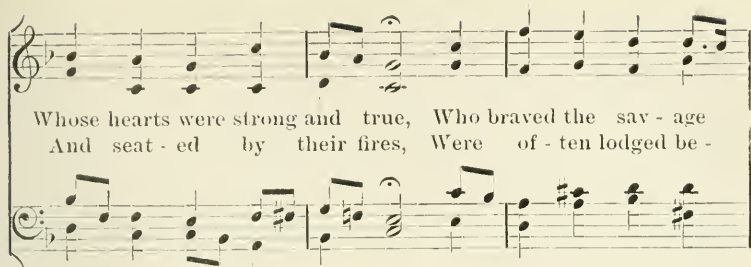
noun, Give hon - or to the men of worth Who built this olden
soil: They taught their sons the fear of God; They lived by honest



town. The first ad - ven-turers ne'er for - get, Nor e'er
toil. The Red Men of the for - est wild Were broth -



for - get the few Who braved the sav - age wil - der - ness,
ers to our sires, Were of - ten lodged be - neath their roofs



3.

They brought from "Merrie England"
The love of liberty,
Were loyal—but not England's self
Might dare oppress the free.
Among the sisterhood of towns
First Freedom's flag to raise;
For honor, conscience, country, law,
Alert in later days.

4.

Such were our city's founders;
Such have their children been;
And generous deeds and peaceful arts
Still keep their memory green.
We cannot name them in our song,
But cherish in our heart,
And in old Taunton's fair renown
Would bear a filial part.

ANNIVERSARY HYMN.

Words by Mrs. Eleanor S. Deane.

Music by Annie M. (Soule)-Lewis.



1. Kind stran - gers we wel - come you, To the



2. And wel - come ye com - rades old, Who re -



3. One house - hold we meet to - day, And give



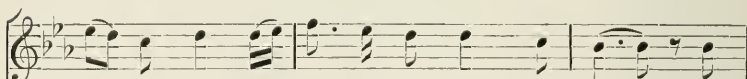
scenes of our fes - ti - val day, To ban - quet, song, sto -



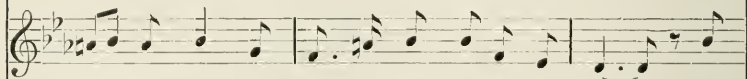
turn to the pla - ces once known. With thoughts of the days



thanks for the fath - ers of old. The moth - ers true, lov -



ry, and lay: Good wo - men, brave men and true. Your



long since gone, Friends bet - ter than ru - bies and gold. Your



ing, yet bold, In song let them live for aye. In

(1.)

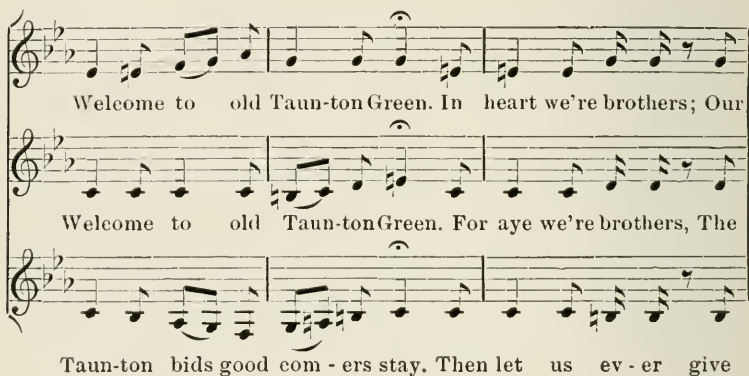
hands we clasp With friendly grasp; As in glad-ness of soul we
homes of youth, Of love and truth, Hold the hearts that never grow
other ways, Men in la - ter days Have as faithful-ly wrought as

sing, Your hands we clasp With friendly grasp; As in
cold, Your homes of youth, Of love and truth, Hold the
they. In oth - er ways, Men in la-ter days, Have as

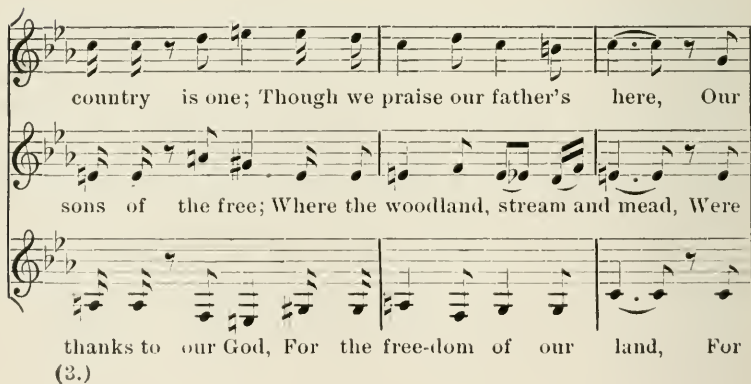
glad-ness of soul we sing. While our riv - er
hearts that nev - er grow cold. While our riv - er
faith - ful - ly wrought as they. While the lit - tle



sea - ward flow - eth; Long as sum - mer's bloom is seen,
 sea - ward flow - eth, Long as sea - son's change is seen,
 Taun - ton flow - eth, Wheels re - volve and spin - dles play.



Welcome to old Taun-ton Green. In heart we're brothers; Our
 Welcome to old Taun-ton Green. For aye we're brothers, The
 Taun-ton bids good com - ers stay. Then let us ev - er give



country is one; Though we praise our father's here, Our
 sons of the free; Where the woodland, stream and mead, Were
 thanks to our God, For the free-dom of our land, For
 (3.)

nation's he-roes all are dear; No dream of re-nown led them
haunts where the wolf and bear might feed, They wrought for the towns yet to
men of worth who with heart and hand, For right and for truth they have

on. Their no-ble names Are ours and fame's, And their
be. Their hon-est names Are ours and fame's, And their
stood. Their no-ble names Are ours and fame's, And for

deeds are our her-i-tage, Their no-ble names Are
faith is our her-i-tage, Their hon-est names Are
aye in our songs shall live. Their no-ble names Are
(4.)



ours and fame's; And their deeds are our her - i - tage.



ours and fame's; And their faith is our her - i - tage.



ours and fame's; And for aye in our songs shall live.

After last verse only.



While the lit - tle Taunton flow - eth; Wheels re - volve and



While the lit - tle Taun - ton flow - eth; Wheels re - volve and



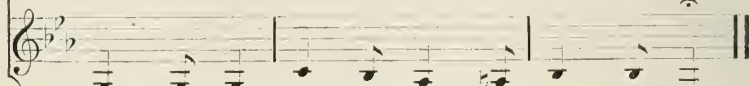
While the lit - tle Taun - ton flow - eth; Wheels revolve and



spin - dles play, Taun - ton bids good com - ers stay.



spin - dles play, Taun - ton bids good com - ers stay.



spin - dles play, Taun - ton bids good com - ers stay.

(5.)

INVITED GUESTS OF THE CITY.

Benjamin Harrison, President U. S. A., and wife; Levi Parsons Morton, Vice President, U. S. A., and wife; Oliver Ames, Governor of Massachusetts, and Staff; John Quincy Adams Brackett, Lieut.-Governor of Massachusetts; Herbert Warren Ladd, Governor of Rhode Island, and Staff; Henry Laurens Dawes, U. S. Senator from Massachusetts; George Frisbie Hoar, U. S. Senator from Massachusetts; Charles Sturtevant Randall, Representative in Congress from 1st Mass. Dist.; Elijah Adams Morse, Representative in Congress from 2d Mass. Dist.; Arthur Webster Tufts, member of the Governor's Council, Massachusetts; Henry Bailey Peirce, Secretary of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts; Harris Cowdrey Hartwell, President of the Massachusetts Senate; William Emerson Barrett, Speaker of the Mass. House of Representatives; Melville Weston Fuller, Chief Justice of the U. S. Supreme Court; Marcus Morton, and wife, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Massachusetts; Lincoln Flagg Brigham, Chief Justice of the Superior Court of Mass.; Elliott Sandford, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Utah; Hiram Putnam Harriman, Judge of Probate, Barnstable County, Mass.; Benjamin Winslow Harris, Judge of Probate, Plymouth County Mass.; George White, Judge of Probate, Norfolk County, Mass.; Charles Gideon Davis, Judge 3d Dist. Court, Plymouth Mass.; Simeon Borden, Clerk of the Courts, Fall River, Mass.; Caleb Benjamin Tillinghast, State Librarian, Boston, Mass.; Justin Winsor, Librarian, Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass.; John Davis Washburn, U. S. Minister to Switzerland; William Thomas Davis, Trustee, Pilgrim Society, Plymouth, Mass.; William Seaver Danforth, Register of Deeds and Sec. Pilg. Society, Plymouth, Mass.; John Ward Dean, Sec. of the New England Hist. Genealogical Society, Boston, Mass.; Amos Perry, Sec. and Librarian, Rhode Island Hist. Society, Providence, R. I.; Reuben Aldridge Guild, Librarian, Brown University, Providence, R. I.; George Edward Ellis, Rev., President, Mass. Historical Society, Boston, Mass.; Charles Henry Payne, Rev., Sec. Board of Education, M. E. church, New York city; Henry Martyn Dexter, Rev., New Bedford and Boston, Mass.; Phillips Brooks, Rev., Boston, Mass.; George Edward Street, Rev., Exeter, New Hampshire; Richard Salter Storrs, Rev., Brooklyn, N. Y.; Rufus Emery, Rev., Newburgh, N. Y.; Thomas James Conaty, Rev., Worcester, Mass.; Benjamin Henry Paddock, Bishop, Boston, Mass.; Thomas Marsh Clark, Bishop, Providence, R. I.; Martin Harkins, Bishop, Providence, R. I.; William Andrew Leonard, Bishop, Gambier, Ohio; Thomas Hubbard Vaill, Bishop, Topeka, Kansas; Darius Nash Couch, General, and wife, Norwalk, Conn.; Ebenezer Weaver Peirce, General, Freetown, Mass.; Charles Jackson Paine, General, Boston, Mass.; James Burrill Angell, President, University, Ann Arbor, Michigan; John

Ordronaux, Professor, Columbia College, New York city; Daniel Smith, Talcott, Professor, Emeritus, Theological Seminary, Bangor, Maine; William Maxwell Evarts, U. S. Senator from New York; George Bancroft, Washington, D. C., and Newport, R. I.; John Greenleaf Whittier, Amesbury and Danvers, Mass.; Robert Charles Winthrop, Brookline and Boston, Mass.; John Davis Long, Hingham and Boston, Mass.; Robert Treat Paine, Waltham and Boston, Mass.; Charles Francis Adams, Quincy and Boston, Mass.; Frederick Lothrop Ames, North Easton and Boston, Mass.; Samuel Crocker Cobb, Taunton and Boston, Mass.; Oliver Prescott, New Bedford, Mass.; Alexander Hamilton Rice, Boston, Mass.; George Dexter Robinson, Chicopee, Mass.; William Wallace Crapo, New Bedford, Mass.; Robert Thompson Davis, Fall River, Mass.; Ebenezer Rockwood Hoar, Concord, Mass.; Moses Gage Leonard, Brooklyn, N. Y.; William Henry Leonard, Newcastle, N. Y.; Joseph Hartwell Williams, Augusta, Maine; James Phinney Baxter, Portland, Maine; Josiah Hayden Drummond, Portland, Maine; Marquis Fayette King, Portland, Maine; John Wilson Smith, Providence, R. I.; Charles Woodbury Thrasher, Springfield, Missouri; Llewellyn Deane, Washington, D. C.; Thomas Merriam Stetson, New Bedford, Mass.; John Summerfield Brayton, Fall River, Mass.; James Madison Morton, Fall River, Mass.; Enoch Pratt, Baltimore, Md.; Matthew Gault Emery, Washington, D. C.; Elisha Clark Leonard, New Bedford, Mass.; Alfred Mason Williams, Providence, R. I.; Charles Harrison Tweed, New York city; William Dexter Marvel, Brooklyn, N. Y.; Charles Deane, Cambridge, Mass.; George Augustus Crocker, New York city; Chester Allyne Reed, North Attleboro', Mass.; James Heron Crosman, New York city; William Thomas Crandell, Providence, R. I.; Niels Arizen, Fall River, Mass.; Curtis Guild, and wife, Boston, Mass.; Stephen Holbrook Rhodes, Boston, Mass.; Samuel Leonard Crocker, Naples, Italy; Arthur Kinglake, Justice of the Peace, County of Somerset, Taunton, England; John Marshall, Taunton, Somersetshire, England; Wilfred George Marshall, Taunton, Somersetshire, England; Edwin Sloper, Taunton, Somersetshire, England; Mayor and Corporation, Taunton Borough, Somersetshire, England; Henry Rodney Barker, Mayor, Providence, R. I.; Almon Kent Goodwin, Mayor, Pawtucket, R. I.; Henry V. A. Joslin, City Clerk, Providence, R. I.; Cyrenius A. Newcomb, Detroit, Michigan.

Members of the Massachusetts Mayors' Club. Present or Past Mayors of Cities:—

Thomas N. Hart, Hugh O'Brien, Boston; Samuel Winslow, Worcester; Charles D. Palmer, James C. Abbott, Lowell; James F. Jackson, John W. Cummings, Fall River; Henry H. Gilmore, William E. Russell, Cambridge; Alvan E. Mack, Alexander B. Bruce, Lawrence; Asa T. Newhall, George D. Hart, Lynn; Edward S. Bradford, Elisha Burr Maynard, Springfield; John M. Raymond, Salem; Walter Clifford, Morgan

Rotch, New Bedford; Charles G. Pope, Mark F. Burns, Somerville; Arthur B. Champlin, George E. Mitchell, Chelsea; Jeremiah F. Sullivan, James E. Delaney, Holyoke; William W. French, David I. Robinson, Gloucester; Frederick G. Richards, George H. Carleton, Joseph H. Sheldon, Haverhill; J. Wesley Kimball, Heman M. Burr, Newton; Albert C. Titcomb, J. Otis Winckley, Newburyport; Jeremiah Brown, Arthur Gaylord Hill, Northampton; Joseph F. Wiggin, Marcellus Coggan, Malden; Eli Culley, Frederick Fosdick, Fitchburg; Albert R. Wade, John J. Whipple, Brockton; Henry N. Fisher, Waltham; Charles H. Porter, Quincy; Edward F. Johnson, Woburn.

Giles Luther Leach, Vice Pres. of Day, Berkley, Mass.; Rollin H. Babbitt, Representative in House of Rep. from Berkley; Calvin T. Crane, Charles F. Paul, Gideon H. Babbitt, Selectmen, Berkley, Mass.; Herbert A. Dean, Thomas P. Paul, Committee on Celebration, Berkley, Mass.

George Ethelbert Gooding, Vice Pres. of Day, Dighton, Mass.; Jeremiah P. Edson, James E. Macker, Charles A. Rose, Selectmen, Dighton, Mass.; Whitman Chase, Alfred Wood Paul, George A. Shove, Committee on Celebration, Dighton, Mass.

Oakes A. Ames, Vice Pres. of Day, Easton, Mass.; Hiram Williams, George Copeland, Henry W. Heath, Selectmen, Easton, Mass.; William L. Chaffin, Edward Belcher Hayward, Committee on Celebration, Easton, Mass.

Erastus Maltby Reed, Vice Pres. of Day, Mansfield, Mass.; Benjamin K. Flint, Valorus B. Hodges, Seth Carroll Shepard, Selectmen, Mansfield, Mass.; Elkanah Hall, John W. Rogers, William B. Rogerson, Committee on Celebration, Mansfield, Mass.

Austin Messinger, Vice Pres. of Day, Norton, Mass.; Charles Tower Oldfield, Charles Henry Makepeace, Oren E. Walker, Selectmen, Norton, Mass.; Samuel A. Chapin, Isaac T. Braman, George H. Talbot, Committee on Celebration, Norton, Mass.

Nathan W. Shaw, Vice Pres. of Day, Raynham, Mass.; Stephen R. Lincoln, Thomas B. Johnson, Elijah E. Williams, Selectmen, Raynham, Mass.; Damon D. White, Joseph W. White, Jesse King, Soraunus W. Hall, Charles T. Robinson, Edward F. Leonard, Alexis C. Dean, Joseph R. Presho, Elwyn S. Harlow, Cyrus Leonard, 2d, Charles B. Gardiner, Charles H. Lewis, Sidney K. B. Perkins, Edward B. Wilbur, David G. Dean, Edward B. King, Committee on Celebration, Raynham, Mass.

Mrs. Susan Tillinghast (Morton) Kimball, Boston Mass.; Mrs. Lydia (Morton) Lee, Moline, Iowa; Mrs. Eliza Baylies (Chapin) Wheaton, Norton, Mass.; Mrs. Harriet Little (Chase) Pulsifer, Auburn, Maine; Mrs. Leonice Marston (Sampson) Moulton, Roslyn, N. Y.; Mrs. Sarah Ann (Pease) Wadsworth, Auburn, N. Y.

The preceding list contains only the names of guests of the city from abroad. To past mayors of the city and other residents of Taunton the courtesy was extended but their names are not included. A larger part of our guests honored the occasion with their presence. A few excused their absence with such words of interest in our celebration as should be put on record:—

[Letter from Lieut.-Governor Brackett.]

PLEASANT ST., ARLINGTON, JUNE 2, 1889.

Rev. S. Hopkins Emery,

DEAR SIR:—I regret very much that by reason of illness, which confines me to my house, I shall not be able to attend the celebration at Taunton on Tuesday, the kind invitation to which I accepted several weeks ago.

Very truly yours,

J. Q. A. BRACKETT.

[Letter from U. S. Senator Dawes.]

PITTSFIELD, MASS., MAY 31, 1889.

Rev. S. Hopkins Emery, Secretary, Committee on Invitations, Taunton, Mass.

DEAR SIR:—I am in receipt of an invitation, for which I tender my cordial thanks, to become a guest of the city of Taunton on the 4th and 5th days of June and participate in the celebration of the two hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the founding of Taunton. It would be a pleasure indeed to accept your hospitality, to visit the city for whose river I have voted so many appropriations, to tread the turf of the famous Taunton Green, to lay some humble tribute at the tomb of the venerated Elizabeth Poole, and to be a witness of the marvellously thrifty growth which has sprung from the seed which she sowed. It is with great regret, therefore, that I find myself compelled by the pressure of my engagements to deny myself this pleasure. Accept, my dear sir, and extend to your associates on the committee, my grateful acknowledgements of your courtesy and my best wishes for the success of the ceremonies of this notable occasion.

Very truly yours,

H. L. DAWES.

[Letter from U. S. Senator Hoar.]

WORCESTER, MASS., APRIL 29, 1889.

MY DEAR SIR:—I regret that I shall be absent from Massachusetts when the celebration of the 250th Anniversary of the Founding of Taunton will take place. Otherwise it would give me great pleasure indeed to take part in an occasion of so much interest.

I am, faithfully yours,

To Rev. S. Hopkins Emery,

GEO. F. HOAR.

[Letter from Chief Justice Fuller.]

WASHINGTON, D. C., MAY 25, 1889.

Messrs. Richard Henry Hall, Samuel Hopkins Emery, William E. Fuller, John W. D. Hall, Henry M. Lovering, George Albert Washburn.

GENTLEMEN:—It would give me great pleasure to accept your invitation to participate in the ceremonies attendant upon the celebration of the two hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the founding of Taunton, but my engagements are such that I find myself, to my regret, entirely unable to do so.

Pray accept my acknowledgments of your courtesy and believe me,

Very truly yours,

M. W. FULLER.

[Letter from Chief Justice Brigham.]

NEW BEDFORD, MAY 31, 1889.

Rev. S. Hopkins Emery, Secretary of the Committee on Invitations to the Celebration of the Two Hundred and Fiftieth Anniversary of the founding of Taunton.

MY DEAR SIR:—My delay in replying to the gracious invitation of the committee whose representative you are, has been due to the hope that I might be able to attend and participate in the celebration of the 250th anniversary of the founding of Taunton.

I now find that official duties will constrain me to be here, on the days of your celebration, to my great disappointment.

Yours truly,

LINCOLN F. BRIGHAM.

[Letter from Judge Davis.]

PLYMOUTH, MAY 3, 1889.

DEAR SIR:—I regret that the state of my health will prevent me from undergoing the fatigue of enjoying your anniversary services on the 4th and 5th of June, which as a native of the Old Colony, I should be glad to attend. Old Plymouth is connected with Taunton by many interesting associations, historically, socially, and in business and law.

Yours truly,

Rev. S. Hopkins Emery, Secretary.

CHAS. G. DAVIS.

[Letter from State Librarian Tillinghast.]

BOSTON, MAY 31, 1889.

Rev. S. Hopkins Emery, Secretary of the Committee on Invitations.

MY DEAR SIR:—I am honored and obliged by the kind invitation of your committee to participate in the ceremonies at the celebration of the quarter millennial anniversary of the founding of Taunton, but regret that I shall be obliged to forego the pleasure of its acceptance.

For two centuries and a half the people of Taunton have illustrated the development of the intelligence, the virtue and the patriotism which unite to form the basis of New England civilization. It is well to honor the founders, as well as their descendants who have cherished, defended and preserved the independence and purity of its civil life, including the

long roll of her sons, eminent for their ability and their high ideal of public service, which the municipality has furnished to the Colony, the Province and the Commonwealth.

Yours very truly,

C. B. TILLINGHAST.

[Letter from the Secretary of the New England Historic Genealogical Society. Society's House, 18 Somerset Street, Boston, Mass.]

TUESDAY, MAY 7, 1889.

Rev. S. Hopkins Emery, Secretary of the Committee on Invitations.

DEAR SIR:—I thank the Committee for their invitation to attend the Quarter Millenary Celebration of the Founding of Taunton. I am sorry to say that I shall not be able to accept it; for it would give me great pleasure to be present on the occasion and assist in doing honor to the memory of those who have aided in raising your city to its present important place among the cities of New England; and particularly to the hardy men and courageous women who, two centuries and a half ago, made a home in this New World wilderness, and named it Taunton "in honor and love," to use their own words, to their "dear native country."

Respectfully yours,

JOHN WARD DEAN.

[Letter from Rev. C. H. Payne]

NEW YORK, May 4, 1889.

To Richard Henry Hall and others, Committee on Invitations, Taunton, Mass.

GENTLEMEN:—I have the honor of acknowledging the receipt of your kind invitation to attend the 250th Anniversary of the founding of Taunton on the 4th and 5th of June next. I deeply regret that previous engagements will prevent my being present on that interesting occasion.

I had the honor to be born in the goodly town of Taunton, and bear a name honored in its annals and distinguished throughout our entire nation. I have always been proud of my birth place, and it would give me unfeigned pleasure to participate in the interesting exercises of the occasion to which you invite me.

Please accept my thanks for the invitation, and my cordial good wishes and desire that the day may be as full of interest and good cheer as your highest anticipations compass. With sentiments of personal esteem, I am,

Sincerely yours,

C. H. PAYNE.

[Letter from Rev. Phillips Brooks.]

Mr. Phillips Brooks acknowledges with many thanks the invitation which he has received to be present at the 250th Anniversary of the City of Taunton; and regrets exceedingly that he cannot accept it.

Boston, May 27, 1889.

[Letter from Rev. R. S. Storrs.]

BROOKLYN, N. Y., MAY 3, 1889.

REV. AND DEAR SIR:—I am honored by the invitation of the Committee on the Celebration of the 250th Anniversary of the Founding of

Taunton—an invitation so kindly communicated by you—and am heartily sorry that it is not in my power to accept it. My engagements are such for the weeks intervening between this and the last of June as to make it impossible for me to be at Taunton on the days named, or on either of them. I remember Taunton very well as it was fifty six years ago, when as a lad I was there for a day or two. I have rarely seen it since, but the early impression of its beauty and prosperity is still strong with me, and I have rejoiced to know from others that its promise of that day has been more than fulfilled in its subsequent charming, busy, and wealthy expansion. I never forget, and shall never forget, my early associations with the towns and villages of Eastern Massachusetts: and every anniversary celebration in any of them, of which I know, gives a fresh impulse to my backward-looking thoughts and love.

Please to present to the Committee my thanks and my regrets, and believe me, my dear sir, with great regard,

Ever faithfully yours,

The Reverend S. Hopkins Emery.

R. S. STORRS.

(Letter from Rev. Thomas J. Conaty.)

PARIS, MAY 18, 1889.

Rev. S. Hopkins Emery.

MY DEAR SIR:—Will you kindly assure your committee of the very great pleasure given me by their "Invitation," which was forwarded to me from Worcester and which I received here yesterday. As I have been obliged to seek relief from work by a trip abroad, I regret that I cannot enjoy the privilege of returning "Home" as a son of Taunton to rejoice with our good old city, on her prosperous length of days. I am very grateful to your committee for kindly remembering me and I beg you to assure them that though distant from my old and cherished home during those days of rejoicing, I join with all who will enjoy her hospitality in wishing to our goodly city, a renewal of her youth and years of greater prosperity and happiness to all who will seek shelter within her boundaries. I rejoice with you and regret my absence from your festivities.

I am yours respectfully,

THOMAS J. CONATY.

(Letter from Bishop Paddock.)

BOSTON, MAY 4, 1889.

The Rev. S. Hopkins Emery, Secretary, etc., etc.

DEAR SIR:—It would give me much pleasure to be present at the most interesting and valuable Historical Commemoration to which you do me the honor to invite me. But imperative official engagements make it impossible.

I am, sir, yours sincerely,

BENJ. H. PADDOCK, Bishop of Massachusetts.

(Letter from Bishop Clark.)

PROVIDENCE, R. I., APRIL 27, 1889.

MY DEAR OLD FRIEND:—I would like to look upon your face again and wish that I were in a condition to accept the very kind invitation of your committee, for I have many pleasant recollections of Taunton, but

I am not strong enough to bear the fatigue and excitement incident to such occasions. Please express my warmest thanks for the honor I have received from the authorities of your beautiful city, and be sure that I have not forgotten the days when we dwelt together in Amherst. How few there are left, who started with us in the race!

Very affectionately yours,

THOMAS M. CLARK.

(Letter from Bishop Harkins.)

PROVIDENCE, MAY 27, 1889.

REV. DEAR SIR:—The kind invitation extended to me by the Committee in charge of the Celebration of the 250th Anniversary of the founding of Taunton has been received. It would indeed be a pleasure for me to join with the citizens in the joyful commemoration of this event; and, with thanksgiving for the blessings of so many years, to wish to the city every kind of prosperity in the years to come.

But a previous engagement obliges me to be in Boston on the days appointed for your celebration, and thus renders it impossible for me to attend.

With grateful recognition of your kind courtesy, I am,
Yours respectfully,

MATTHEW HARKINS, Bishop of Providence.

(Letter from Bishop Leonard, sometime of Washington, now of Ohio.)

WASHINGTON, D. C., MAY 20, 1889.

DEAR DR. EMERY:—I greatly regret that I cannot be present at your great celebration on June 4th, next. But since I wrote last, I find that on that evening I must be home to marry Mr. Justice Gray, of the Supreme Court, to Miss Matthews—a parishioner, and daughter of the late Justice Stanley Matthews—I am much disappointed as I had intended being with you. Please express my profound regrets to your colleagues, and to my excellent and revered friend, Capt. Hall.

What a day it will be for old Taunton! Shades of my forefathers—how it would rejoice their venerable hearts!

Faithfully,

W. A. Leonard.

(Letter from General Couch.)

NORWALK, CONN., MAY 7, 1889.

My Dear Rev. S. Hopkins Emery, Secretary of Committee on Celebration, etc., etc., Taunton, Mass.

I have delayed answering the honored invitation of your Committee until this time, hoping the way might be clear for me to be present upon so interesting an event in the history of Taunton, but am now sorry to say that I shall not be able to join my friends and former fellow-citizens in its 250th Anniversary.

My wife desires me to present her thanks for your courtesy to her, with regrets that she will not be able to attend as a guest of the city.

Trusting that the Celebration will be successful, and with many kind wishes for its participants,

I am, very truly,

D. N. Couch.

(Letter from President Angell.)

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN, ANN ARBOR, APRIL 29, 1889.

MY DEAR SIR:—I beg to acknowledge my indebtedness to the committee for the courtesy of an invitation to attend the 250th Anniversary of the founding of Taunton.

I deeply regret that my engagements will prevent me from accepting the invitation. The story of few of the old New England towns is so interesting and important as that of Taunton. As one connected by marriage with the Caswells of Taunton, I have a personal interest in the celebration.

Yours truly,

Rev. S. Hopkins Emery, Taunton.

JAMES B. ANGELL.

(Letter from Professor Talcott.)

BANGOR, ME., JUNE 1, 1889.

To the Committee on Invitations, Taunton, Mass.

GENTLEMEN:—Please accept my thanks for the kind invitation sent me to be present at your approaching celebration. I have long desired that it might at some future time be in my power to make a pilgrimage to the old historic city of Taunton, and the more especially in view of the fact that one of the most warmly cherished friends of my youth, (although my junior in age,) whose name it is pleasant to recognize among your number, has been for many years largely identified with the best interests of your community.

The programme of your proposed celebration is certainly most attractive, and I trust that the weather may be such as to allow of its being carried out in a manner worthy of the spirit which has planned it, and such as to secure to the multitudes that will be in attendance, an ample measure of enjoyment and of profit.

Be assured, Gentlemen, that it is with no ordinary regret that I feel myself obliged to say that just at the present time, peculiar circumstances forbid me to be absent from home.

I am, Gentlemen, yours with high consideration and respect,

D. S. TALCOTT.

(Letter from Hon. Robert C. Winthrop.)

BROOKLINE, MASS., MAY 21, 1889.

Hon. R. H. Hall, Chairman, Rev. S. H. Emery, Secretary.

GENTLEMEN:—I thank you and your associates on the Committee, for including me among the invited guests of the City of Taunton for the 4th and 5th of June next. It would afford me great pleasure to unite with you in celebrating the 250th Anniversary of the founding of the most ancient town of Bristol County, and in recalling the memory of its Worthies, from the days of Elizabeth Pool to those of the Baylies, and Crockers whom I have known and valued personally. But I dare not contemplate the fatigues of such an occasion, and can only offer you my grateful acknowledgments of the invitation, with my sincere regrets that I am unable to accept it.

Believe me, Gentlemen, resp'y and truly yours,

ROBT. C. WINTHROP.

(Letter from Hon. John D. Long.)

HINGHAM, APR., 27, 1889.

MY DEAR SIR:—I am in receipt of the kind invitation of the city of Taunton to the celebration of its 250th Anniversary. If my engagements will permit I shall be happy to attend, but I fear that on the 4th and 5th of June next, I shall be so engaged that I cannot do so.

With many thanks for the courtesy I am,

Truly yours,

Rev. S. Hopkins Emery.

JOHN D. LONG.

(Letter from Hon. Alexander H. Rice.)

BOSTON, JUNE 3, 1889.

R. H. Hall, Esq., Chairman, etc., Taunton, Mass.

MY DEAR SIR:—I extremely regret that an unexpected engagement beyond my control, compels me to be in Boston to-morrow and the next day; and consequently deprives me of the anticipated pleasure of attending the commemorative festival in Taunton, this week.

Believe me not less appreciative of the courtesy of your committee in this kind invitation.

Very truly yours,

ALEXANDER H. RICE.

(Letter from Hon. George D. Robinson.)

CHICOPEE, MASS., MAY 14, 1889.

Rev. S. Hopkins Emery, Taunton Mass.

DEAR SIR:—I am under great obligations for the honor of the invitation in behalf of the City of Taunton to participate in the ceremonies of the celebration of the 250th anniversary of the founding of the City, and regret to say in reply that I am constrained, by reason of engagements which I cannot avoid, to forego the pleasure of an acceptance. Accept my sincere wishes for the highest enjoyment of all who shall be in attendance or interested in the event, and for the continued prosperity of the City and the happiness of all her people.

Yours truly,

GEO. D. ROBINSON.

(Letter from Hon. E. Rockwood Hoar.)

CONCORD, MAY 18, 1889.

Messrs. Richard Henry Hall, Samuel Hopkins Emery and others, Committee on Invitations.

GENTLEMEN:—I am much honored by the invitation of the City of Taunton to be present as its guest and participate in the ceremonies at the celebration of the 250th Anniversary of the founding of Taunton, on the 4th and 5th of June of this year, and regret extremely that my state of health will not allow me to accept it.

The history of so old a New England town, and the memories belonging to one of such honorable distinction as Taunton, make the occasion one of great interest; and especially attractive to me, not only from pleasant relations to some of your citizens in days gone by, but from the pleasure I should expect in hearing my valued friend, Judge

Bennett, who is, as I am informed, to deliver the historical address—and in witnessing the growth and prosperity which have marked the advance of the beautiful town into the thriving city.

With my best wishes for the success of your celebration,

I am, Gentlemen, very respectfully your obliged friend,

E. R. HOAR.

(Letter from John Wilson Smith, Esq.)

PROVIDENCE, MAY 17, 1889.

To the Committee on Invitations, Rev. S. Hopkins Emery, Secretary, Taunton, Mass.

GENTLEMEN:—It is with great pleasure I acknowledge the receipt of your kind invitation to attend the celebration, on the 4th and 5th of June proximo, of the 250th Anniversary of the founding of Taunton, but regret that I shall be unable to give myself the gratification of accepting it.

It would be an especial satisfaction to be present on the interesting occasion, for on my paternal side I trace my ancestry from John Smith Sen'r, one of the proprietors of Taunton in 1639,—died 1691,—who married Jael Packer,—to John Jr.—married Mary Godfrey,—to Job,—married Hannah Barney, grand daughter of Rev. Samuel Danforth, Jun'r,—to John Wilson,—married Susanna Tillinghast,—to William Henry, my father,—married Mary Chaplin Avery.

Sincerely thanking you for including me among your invited guests,

I am very respectfully, your obd't serv't,

JOHN WILSON SMITH.

(Letter from Charles W. Thrasher, Esq.)

SPRINGFIELD, Mo., MAY 28, 1889.

Messrs. Richard Henry Hall, Samuel Hopkins Emery, John Williams Dean Hall, William Eddy Fuller, Henry Morton Lovering, George Albert Washburn, Committee on Invitations.

GENTLEMEN:—Please accept my sincere thanks for your kind and cordial invitation, to be present on the 5th of June next at the Celebration of the 250th Anniversary of the founding of Taunton. It would afford me much pleasure to be present on the occasion mentioned, but business engagements render it impossible. I shall never forget your beautiful and grand Old City, and the many kind friends I left there. The anniversary of the founding of a town in the state of Massachusetts, having an existence of two and one half centuries, could not be otherwise than interesting. The history of the old towns of Massachusetts most conspicuously illustrates the influences and traits of character, which have made America the wonder and admiration of the world. One who has never lived in the great west can hardly understand or appreciate the vast and beneficent influence of New England and her stern Puritanical institutions and principles, in molding the development and civilization of this entire Continent. I am assured that your Celebration will not only prove a success, but will also be unusually interesting; and I much regret that I am unable to share with you its pleasures and benefits.

With my best wishes for the grand old city of Taunton, and its good people, and for its and their future prosperity, I am

Respectfully yours,

CHARLES W. THRASHER.

(Letter from George A. Crocker, Esq.)

NEW YORK, MAY 10, 1889.

MY DEAR MR. EMERY:—I am in receipt of the very pleasant invitation to be present in the City of Taunton on the 5th of June, and am much gratified at being thus remembered. It would certainly give me great pleasure to attend the interesting ceremonies, but I can see now that it will be impossible for me to do so. I am sorry to be deprived of so pleasant an experience as this celebration in Taunton, for though it is many years since I left the good old place, I still cherish the fondest recollections of all the associations of my early life there. With cordial regards for yourself and the other gentlemen of your committee, believe me,

Very sincerely yours,

GEO. A. CROCKER.

(Letter from Ex-Gov. Joseph H. Williams of Maine.)

AUGUSTA, MAINE, May 22, 1889.

GENTLEMEN:—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your invitation to visit Taunton on the 4th and 5th of June next, as a guest of that city, and to participate in the ceremonies of the occasion, which you intend to make a most attractive memorial of the early Fathers.

I would gladly avail myself of the generous hospitality of your city to pay the humble tribute of my presence, at least, at the time and place appointed to manifest our pious interest in the early period before Cohannet became Taunton—but the state of my health will not permit me to take a journey at this time, and to undergo the fatigue incident to a full appreciation and enjoyment of the celebration you have in view.

Permit me to add that I shall regret my absence from your festivities the more because, within a few weeks, I have received from England some interesting items of intelligence about my ancestor Richard Williams, prior to his emigration: and if I could be present, and were to be called upon to say a word or two, at some suitable stage of your proceedings, I am quite sure the authentic facts I have learned would impart a grateful flavor to whatever I might feel moved to say concerning Deacon Richard and his well born wife—Frances Dighton.

But, I pray you to have me excused; and trusting that all propitious influences will attend your 250th anniversary,

I am very gratefully yours,

JOSEPH H. WILLIAMS.

Rev. Samuel Hopkins Emery, etc., of the Committee on Invitations, Taunton, Mass.

Mr. Williams, on being applied to, since the anniversary, for copies of any official certificates in his possession, showing new facts concerning Richard Williams, has done us the favor of transmitting the following:—

I.

[Extract from Biglands City of Gloucester, (Eng.) page 184. Inscriptions in St. Nicholas Church.]

"Here lies interred the bodies of John Deighton of this city, gent., and Jane, his wife, daughter to Edward Basset of Uley, Eng., by whom he had issue three sons and four daughters. He spent all his time in the study of chirurgery and attained to great knowledge therein.

He died 16 May 16(40)—and she the 23 April 1631.—"

II.

(Baptism of Frances Dighton, in Church of St. Nicholas, Gloucester.)

"Anno dmi 1611.

"The first of March was baptized Frances the daughter of John Dighton."

I hereby certify that the above is a true copy of the Register of Baptisms of the Church of St. Nicholas, Gloucester, extracted this fourteenth day of December, 1888,—by me,

(Signed)

JOHN J. LUCE, Vicar.

III.

(Marriages.)

"Richard Williams of the parishe of St. Johns in Glouc'r and Frances Deighton of the parishe of St. Nicholas in Glouc'r aforesayd were marryed the XIth daye of February at Witcombe Magna by Mr. Stubbs (t)eacher 1632."

*

*

*

"JOHN LLOYD, Minister.

THOMAS BAYLIS, }
RICHARD PACKER, } Church wardens."

[Witcombe Magna is about five miles (easterly) from city of Gloucester.]

"I certify the above to be a correct extract from the Transcript of the Register of the parish of Great Witcombe for the year 1632 now in my lawful keeping."

(Signed)

B. BONNER, N. P., Registrar of the Diocese of Gloucester and Bristol at Gloucester.

IV.

[St. Nicholas Vicarage, Gloucester. "Mr. Thomas, has discovered these two baptismal entries.)

"1634 March 27, John, son of Richard Williams."—

"1635 February 7, Elizabeth, daughter of Richard Williams."—

Yours very truly,

(Signed)

J. J. LUCE"

18. 12. '88.

Copy of a Post Card addressed to Conway Dighton, Esq., St. Julius, Cheltenham.

[The Civil year began March 25th.]

The Hon. James Savage, once President of the Mass. Historical Society, in Vol. 4 of his *Genealogical Dictionary*, p. 565, quoting from Emery's *ministry of Taunton*, Vol. 1 p. 44—what is there stated concerning the Richard Williams family, observes: "I greatly distrust the tradition of his very early coming to our country and more the Gloucestershire wife." We are glad to be assured that the correspondence of Gov. Williams, now published, removes all ground for "distrust" concerning either the marriage or the early coming to this country.

Frances Dighton, the wife of Richard Williams, was the daughter of Jane Bassett, the daughter of Edward Bassett, whose lineage appears to run back to the first Lord Berkeley. Hence the expression "well born" is not misapplied to her. See the "Visitation of Gloucestershire, 1623" and printed in Vol. 21, *Publications of Harleian Society*, 1885.

(Letter from Arthur Kinglake, Esq.)

HAINES HILL, TAUNTON, ENGLAND, MAY, 21, 1889.

MY DEAR SIR:—Many thanks for your kind invitation to join in the approaching anniversary of the founding of the city of Taunton which would have given me great pleasure to have accepted, but as you are aware, I am no longer young and am not free from the infirmities of old age. You have extended your hospitalities not only to me but likewise to some of the citizens of our town, and I am not without a hope that a representative of old Taunton may be enabled to be present at the forthcoming ceremony. It is cheering to me and my friends to find that you have not forgotten us, and be assured that we thoroughly appreciate your friendship. I often reflect on the spirit and enterprise and civilizing influences of your great Republic. We in Taunton have not forgotten the extreme delight which we experienced some few years since by the visit of your distinguished Statesman and Author, Mr. Lowell, who delivered in our Shire Hall in Taunton, a splendid address on the life and character of the "father of the English novel," Henry Fielding, one of the worthies of Somersetshire.

The name of General Washington is not forgotten in Somerset to this day. When the unhappy war between this country and America took place, Lady Harriet Acland in a truly heroic spirit sought to accompany her husband Colonel Acland on the Battle Field and this request was courteously granted by the illustrious Commander.

With best compliments to Mr. Lovering and his family,

I remain with much esteem and regard yours very sincerely,

ARTHUR KINGLAKE,

Justice of the Peace for the County of Somerset.

(Letter from John Marshall, Esq.)

BELMONT, TAUNTON, ENGLAND, MAY 8, 1889.

DEAR SIR:—I beg to thank you and your committee for your kind invitation to be present when you celebrate the 250th Anniversary of the founding of Taunton, Mass.

I regret I am not able to accept it; my health is very feeble, and I am quite unable to leave my home.

I am yours faithfully,

The Rev. S. Hopkins Emery.

JOHN MARSHALL.

(Letter from Edwin Sloper, Esq.)

TAUNTON, OLD ENGLAND, MAY 7, 1889.

GENTLEMEN:—Very many thanks for the cordial invitation to the City of Taunton to celebrate the 250th anniversary of the founding of our sister town. Unfortunately my time is so occupied that I am precluded from accepting this kindly and well meant desire. Had I been able to participate in your welcome gathering it was my intention to read a short paper on "Old Taunton" and how a tribe of incoming Saxons settled in the Dean and made it their home in the seventh century. I think I should also have been capable of nearly proving that Street gave the name to your town.

Trusting that everything will pass off in the most satisfactory manner and sharing in your views and the delights which you anticipate,

Believe me yours very truly,

EDWIN SLOPER.

The Committee on Invitation, 250th Anniversary, Taunton, Mass.

(Letter from Wilfred Marshall, Esq.)

THE ELM, TAUNTON, ENGLAND, MAY 23, 1889.

DEAR SIR:—Having just returned home after a few weeks visit to the south of France, I find awaiting me your kind invitation to take part in the ceremonies attending the celebration of the 250th Anniversary of the founding of your town.

I am much gratified that you should have been pleased to ask me to be present on such an auspicious occasion. It is with infinite regret I find myself unable to avail myself of this opportunity of revisiting your city, and renewing, under such pleasant auspices, my acquaintance with those of your fellow citizens whose hospitality and welcome extended to me in the years '78, '79 and '83, I shall always bear in grateful remembrance.

I am, dear sir, yours very faithfully,

Rev. S. Hopkins Emery.

WILFRED MARSHALL.

(Letter from Thomas M. Hawkins, Esq.)

67 HIGH STREET, TAUNTON, ENGLAND, MAY 18, 1889.

DEAR SIR:—As a member of the Taunton Town Council this side of the water, permit me to heartily thank you and your committee for the kind and cordial invitation to participate in the celebration of the 250th Anniversary of the founding of our namesake your side of the water. Could I spare the time and needful, I do not know any thing that would give me greater pleasure than to be with you on June 4 and 5, but un-

fortunately these two obstacles cannot be overcome, so I can only be with you in spirit on those days. I trust you may have a very successful celebration and your city go on and prosper as in the past.

Although our Taunton is so much older than yours yet you have become a city while we still remain as far as name in statu quo, but our population is increasing, our boundaries expanding, and things generally looking up.

Will it be troubling you to send me a newspaper containing a report of your proceedings on the 4th and 5th proximo? If so please take no notice of this request, as I know you will be very busy, but I shall be glad to hear of your goings on. Now, sir, please again accept my thanks and best wishes, and believe me.

Yours faithfully.

The Rev. S. Hopkins Emery.

THOMAS M. HAWKINS.

To the Mayor and Corporation of the ancient town of Taunton, England, as to all the invited guests of the city, was sent the following form of invitation :

1639.

City Seal.

1889.

The honor of your presence is respectfully desired on Tuesday and Wednesday, the 4th and 5th of June of this year, at the celebration of the 250th anniversary of the founding of Taunton.

You are cordially invited, as a guest of the city, to participate in the ceremonies of the occasion.

RICHARD HENRY HALL,

SAMUEL HOPKINS EMERY,

JOHN WILLIAMS DEAN HALL,

WILLIAM EDDY FULLER,

HENRY MORTON LOVERING,

GEORGE ALBERT WASHBURN,

Committee on Invitations.

This form of Invitation, sent to each member of the Corporation of Taunton, England, was supplemented as follows :

To his Honor, the Mayor of the Borough of Taunton, Somersetshire, England:

DEAR SIR:—We learn from the Charter of your municipality contained in the valuable volume so kindly sent to the city of Taunton, New England, by your Body in 1884, that your municipal government is composed of the Mayor, six Aldermen and eighteen Councilors.

We therefore send a package of five and twenty cards of invitation to our proposed celebration, which we will thank you to direct to such persons as are associated with you in the Government of the Borough. Will you assure them, all and each, of the heartiness with which we, representing the New England daughter, send her greeting across the water, to the ancient town in the mother land, whence she derived her name. Hoping to welcome you to this our quarter millennial festival.

We remain very sincerely yours.

RICHARD HENRY HALL, Mayor,
Chairman of Committee on Invitations.

SAM'L HOPKINS EMERY, Sec. of Com.

Taunton, Mass., U. S. A., 24th April, 1889.

The reply to the above, bearing date the 16th of May was received in time to be read at the Banquet. See pages

110-111.

A later communication, dated the 23d of May, was, as follows :

Letter from Hon. Henry J. Spiller.)

TAUNTON, ENGLAND, MAY 23, 1889

DEAR MR. MAYOR:—By this post I have sent you the address of congratulation from our Town, to the citizens of her daughter Town in the New World, on the occasion of the celebration of the 250th anniversary of the founding of your Town.

We are having an oak frame made for the address which I hope to forward in a few days, and it will be interesting for you to know it will be made of old English oak taken from the old St. Mary's Tower, which was pulled down more than thirty years ago.

A view of the new town, the design of which is a copy of the old, is shown in the address, also a view of our old Castle, which is now used as a museum.

I am sorry myself or any member of our corporation will be unable to be present with you, but I trust your Celebration will be successful in every way.

With kind regards, and best wishes, I remain, dear Mr. Mayor,

Yours faithfully,

HENRY J. SPILLER, Mayor of Taunton, England.

To his Honor The Mayor, City of Taunton, Massachusetts, U. S. A.,

The "address of congratulation," to which the mayor refers in his letter arrived in good time, followed by its "oak frame," and they have been the admiration of all who have seen them, ever since. The text of the address is as follows:

To the Mayor, Aldermen, Councillors, and Citizens of the City of Taunton, Massachusetts, U. S. A.

We, the Mayor, Aldermen, and Burgesses of the Borough of Taunton, in England, desire to offer you our heartfelt congratulations upon

the celebration of the 250th Anniversary of the founding of your town. As the governing body of the Mother Town from whence your city sprang, we regard with affection the memory of her enterprising sons and daughters, who carried with them to distant lands beyond the seas the name and traditions of the birth-place of themselves and their ancestors. Although unable to be present and participate in the ceremonies with which this auspicious occasion will be celebrated, we can assure you that the ties of kindred and tongue which bind your mighty Nation to the mother Country are still further strengthened by the remembrance that there exists on the other side of the Atlantic a city worthy of handing down to posterity the name of Taunton, which is endeared to us by the recollection of its historic past, the contemplation of its prosperous present, and the promise of a still brighter future. We sincerely trust that the Trade and Commerce of your City may grow and flourish, and that the enterprise of its Citizens may increase in prestige and importance, so that succeeding generations may inherit wealth and prosperity, and enjoy the blessings of health and happiness.

Given under the Common Seal of said Borough, this 21st day of May, 1889.

HENRY J. SPILLER, Mayor.

THOS. MEYLER, Town Clerk.

The Reply of Hon. R. H. Hall, Mayor, to the letter of Congratulation was as follows :

MAYOR'S OFFICE, CITY OF TAUNTON, MASS., JUNE 8TH, 1889.

Dear Mr. Mayor.—Your esteemed favor of the 23d ult. came duly to hand, and on the evening of June 4th I received the address of congratulation from the mother town of Taunton to her namesake in the New World. My Dear Mayor, on behalf of our citizens, I desire to extend to the ancient town of Taunton our grateful appreciation of this expression of regard so beautifully embellished in this testimonial. Our hearts have been filled with deep emotion as we read the sentiments advanced therein, and we trust that the ties which bind us together may be cemented more closely by this interchange of congratulations, and that we may for ever remain one in sympathy and good will as we are one in name. Our City Council will take early official action on this recognition and acceptance, which I will forward to you in due time. Our celebration has been a great success, far exceeding anything within the former history of the municipality. I forward to your address copies of our city newspapers, giving a detailed account, also some souvenirs of the interesting event. With kind regards, I remain, sincerely yours.

RICHARD HENRY HALL,

Mayor.

To His Honor, The Mayor of Taunton, Somersetshire, England.

The "oak frame" was accompanied with a letter as follows :

TAUNTON, ENGLAND, NOV'R 8th, 1889.

DEAR MR. MAYOR:—I have at last sent you the long promised oak frame for the Congratulatory address sent by our Corporation. I trust it will arrive safely and that you will be able to find a place for it in your

Municipal Buildings. The carvings in the upper corners represent, old England to America, and the lower ones, old Taunton to new Taunton.

My year of office expires to-morrow and I have taken the liberty of enclosing one of my photos and ask your acceptance of the same as a small memento of my year of office, and should be pleased to receive one of yours. If you send it please direct it to me at 31 Bridge Street, Taunton.

Wishing you and your people every happiness and prosperity, I am, dear Mr. Mayor,

Yours sincerely,

HENRY JAMES SPILLER,

R. H. Hall, Esq.

Mayor of Taunton.

To Mayor Spiller's letter of the 8th of Nov., Mayor Hall replied as follows, at the same time sending the reply of the City Government to the "Address of Congratulation" from Taunton, England.

MAYOR'S OFFICE, CITY OF TAUNTON, MASS., U. S. A., Nov. 30th, 1889.

DEAR MR. MAYOR:—Your esteemed favor of the 8th inst. came duly to hand, and the frame which you have forwarded, I dare say will reach us in due time. I have shipped to-day by European Express Co., our reply to the congratulatory address which was unanimously adopted by our City Council. The border around this reply is a design derived from the Trailing Arbutus, a flower which is said to be indigenous to New England. The small sketch at the top, in the border, is a scene representing the arrival of the Mayflower, in Plymouth Harbor. The small sketch at the bottom, in the border, is a view on Taunton river. The dates on each side of the border viz: 1639 and 1889 represent our 250 years of settlement. The sketch at the top under the border is a view on Taunton Green looking towards the Court House. On one side of the sketch you will find the Massachusetts Coat of Arms, and on the other the American. Enclosed within the large initial is a sketch of our City Hall.

The face of the frame which encloses the reply was made from a piece of timber taken from the wreck of the Ship Sparrowhawk, and was presented to the City of Taunton by the Pilgrim Society of Plymouth, Mass. The back of the frame was made of American oak.

The Sparrowhawk was a stanch little craft, built of oak, which sailed from England in 1626 with passengers for the new world, and was wrecked off Orleans, Cape Cod. It was speedily covered with sand, and remained covered until a few years since, when an unusually severe storm unearthed the old hulk. It was then removed and presented to the Pilgrim Society, Plymouth, and has at last found a resting place in Pilgrim Hall, where it has been set up, and is now on exhibition.

Trusting the above will reach you safely, and wishing you and the Borough of Taunton long continued prosperity, I remain, dear Mr. Mayor,

Yours sincerely,

RICHARD HENRY HALL,

Mayor of Taunton, New England.

To His Honor, The Mayor of Taunton, Somersetshire, England.

REPLY TO ADDRESS OF CONGRATULATION.

The Mayor, Aldermen, and Common Council of Taunton in New England, to the Mayor, Aldermen, and Burgesses of Taunton in Old England.

GREETING: We have been deeply touched by the reception of your kind address of Congratulation upon the celebration of the 250th anniversary of the founding of our town, which happily arrived on the very day of its occurrence. We assure you that we fully reciprocate your kindly sentiments so pleasantly expressed, and we fondly cherish the memory of your ancient, brave, and loyal Borough, with its historic Castle, its beautiful church of St. Mary, and its charming river in that lovely vale of Taunton Dean. We wonder not that our fathers chose our name "in honor and love to their dear and native country" and we congratulate ourselves that they brought with them from their own land those lofty and sterling principles of thought and action which have contributed so much to our prosperity, and secured for us the manifold blessings we now enjoy. May we never bring discredit on our ancient name, but rather lead our English mother to ever feel a just pride in her American daughter, and may the bonds of love and amity between us, and between our respective countries grow stronger and stronger till time shall be no more.

Given in our Council Chamber, this eighth day of August, A. D., 1889.

RICHARD HENRY HALL, Mayor.

RIPLEY W. TOWNSEND, Pres. of the Common Council.

EDWIN A. TETLOW, City Clerk.

To this "Reply" from Taunton, New England, the following has been received:

TAUNTON, Eng., Feb. 5, 1890.

WORSHIPFUL SIR:—The package containing the framed address as advised, came safely to hand and was officially handed to the Taunton town council at its last meeting, when Alderman Spiller read the correspondence addressed to him. On behalf of the council I am desired to express to you and the members of the corporation of the city of Taunton how much we esteem your kind and beautifully framed address. It now hangs in a conspicuous position in our new council chamber and I trust will be handed down to future generations as a proof of the good feeling existing between the corporation of the city of Taunton, U. S. A., and the town of Taunton, England. May your city still continue to prosper in every sense of the word and may the bond of friendship between old England and your new and great country be strengthened as time rolls on! The writer has succeeded Alderman Spiller (one of the best mayors Taunton ever had) in the civic chair, and should you pay a visit to this country during my year of office I can promise you a hearty welcome to our dear old town.

Believe me, dear Mr. Mayor,

Yours very faithfully,

GEORGE SAUNDERS, JR., Mayor.

To his worshipful, the mayor of Taunton, U. S. A.

We close our account of the banquet with a flattering notice of the celebration from an issue of a newspaper of the

mother town, soon after, and we may add that letters have been received from many, who were present or who had read the account of our proceedings, expressing in the warmest terms, their gratification at the success of the great undertaking.

“TAUNTON’S AMERICAN DAUGHTER.”

The above is the heading of a column article in a recent issue of the Taunton. (England) Courier, descriptive of our anniversary celebration, the introduction to which is as follows:

The ancient borough of Taunton, the county town of Somerset, can trace back its history for considerably more than a thousand years. Many and stirring are the events which have occurred in the garden town from the days when the Roman legions first occupied it as one of the dwelling places of the Britons. Since those times of remote antiquity it has been the frontier fortress of the Saxons, when the Tone was made the border of Wessex; it was seized by Perkin Warbeck in his brief rebellion; Blake’s heroic defence of it against the onslaughts of the Cavaliers is one of the most famous incidents of the wars of the commonwealth, while the triumphal entry of the ill-fated Monmouth and the Bloody Assizes at which the infamous Jeffreys punished the Tauntonians by hanging or transporting four hundred of them, forms one of the saddest pages of our national records. Though our American cousins in Massachusetts cannot boast that their city—which their ancestors, “in honor and love to their dear and native country,” named after the well remembered English home in the fair vale of Taunton Deane—has played so prominent a part in history as its namesake, yet during the two hundred and fifty years of its existence it has done much of which it may well be proud. It has greatly outstripped the mother town in population, its manufactures are important and increasing, and it has worthily followed the example of old Taunton in its struggles for liberty, and in that enterprise and desire to benefit by human progress and discovery which has ever been the characteristic both of the mother and the daughter.

After quoting extensively from Judge Bennett’s address and citing some of the important matters connected with the celebration, the Courier closes with saying:

On the whole, the inhabitants of Taunton, Mass., are to be congratulated on the highly satisfactory way in which they have celebrated their anniversary, and on the thriving position in which their industry has

placed their city. One of the most pleasing features of the affair, and an instance of hearty good-will which exists between the mother and daughter towns, was the cordial invitations sent over to the Taunton Town Council to send representatives to the celebration. The mayor, (Alderman Spiller's) letter in reply was published in the Massachusetts newspapers, but it seems as if the address did not reach its destination in time. Our American cousins are rather at fault when, in referring to the old familiar names being given to New England towns, they say "Rehoboth is in Somerset, not far from Taunton." This name appears to have a Scriptural derivation.

RECEPTION AND BALL.

City Hall was brilliantly illuminated and beautifully decorated with flags and mottoes in honor of our visitors from abroad. The reception committee and others of our citizens were present to meet our invited guests. Reeves' Band was in attendance and added to the pleasure of the occasion by their fine selections. After an hour or two of pleasant intercourse the ball committee from the adjoining hall appeared and announced that the time had arrived for the commencement of the festivities there. Thereupon this informal but very enjoyable part of the day's observances came to a close.

The programme of Tuesday closed with a Promenade Concert and Ball held in Armory Hall immediately after the close of the Public Reception at the City Hall, and was in charge of the following committee:—

FREDERICK MASON, Chairman,
JOSEPH R. TALLMAN, Secretary,
RIPLEY W. TOWNSEND,
EDWIN A. TETLOW,
JOHN H. GALLIGAN,
JAMES C. SPROAT,
CHARLES P. FOSTER,
ALFRED B. SPROAT.

The assignments of sub-committees were as follows:—

On Reception of Invited Guests.

FREDERICK MASON, JAMES C. SPROAT, JOHN H. GALLIGAN

On Hall Arrangements.

EDWIN A. TETLOW, RIPLEY W. TOWNSEND

On Refreshments.

FREDERICK MASON, JOSEPH R. TALLMAN, JAMES C. SPROAT

On Ball Programme.

ALFRED B. SPROAT, JOHN H. GALLIGAN

On Decorations.

RIPLEY W. TOWNSEND, CHARLES P. FOSTER

Floor Director.

FREDERICK MASON.

Aids.

RIPLEY W. TOWNSEND,	JOSEPH R. TALLMAN,
EDWIN A. TETLOW,	JOHN H. GALLIGAN,
JAMES C. SPROAT,	CHARLES P. FOSTER,
ALFRED B. SPROAT,	A. CLEVELAND BENT,
ROBERT C. BROWN.	

The Hall was beautifully decorated with streamers, flags and lace draperies, the front of the stage being filled with a terrace of plants and flowers behind which 'Reeves' full orchestra was stationed. The invited guests were escorted from the Reception at the City Hall by the reception committee, and upon their arrival the Ball was opened by a Grand March led by His Honor Mayor Hall and Lady, fol-

lowed by more than two hundred couples among whom were many of our most prominent citizens who had for years been absent from gatherings of this character, but who on this occasion united with the younger element in doing honor to our celebration. The electric lights shining through the many hued gauze canopy bringing out the rich coloring of the varied decorations and reflected from the glittering emblems and devices with which the walls were hung, the inspiring strains of the music and the elegant toilets of the ladies all combined to make the scene one long to be remembered, and when the festivities ended, at a late hour, it brought to a close one of the most successful features of the celebration.

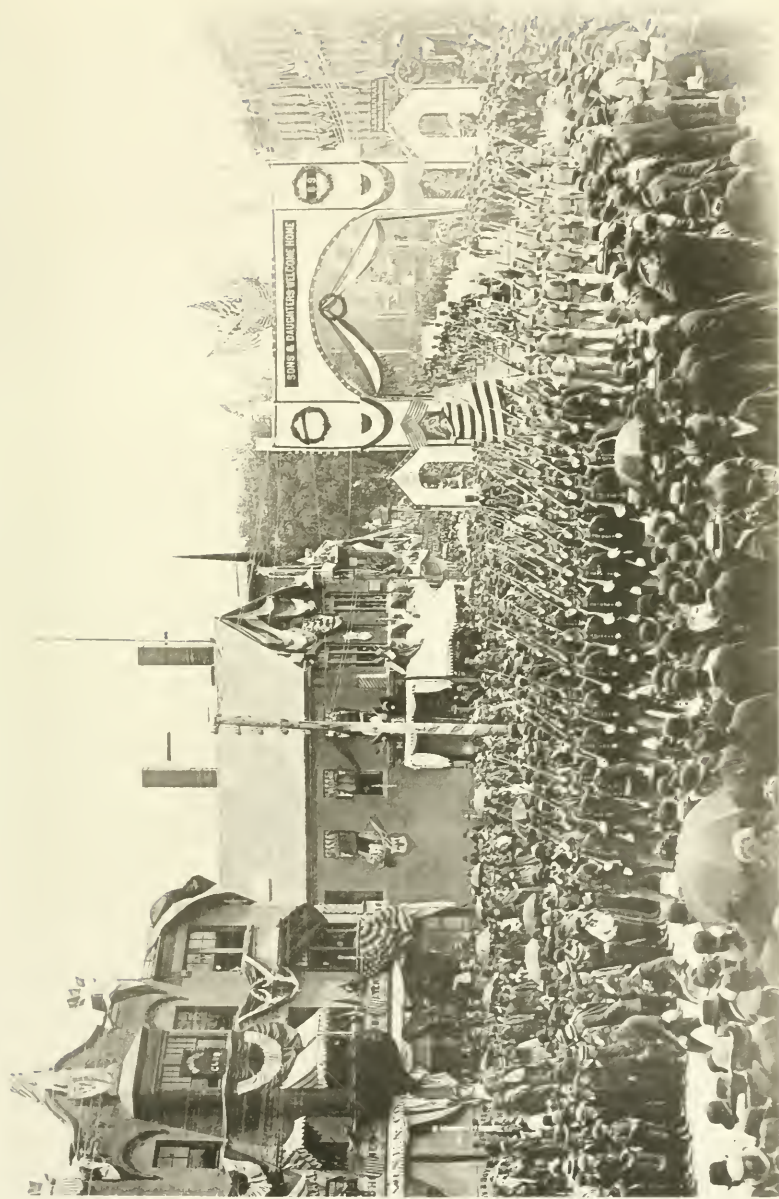
SECOND DAY OF THE CELEBRATION.

THE GRAND PROCESSION.

The great feature of the second day's observances was the Grand Procession

Much apprehension was felt in the morning lest the weather should prove unfavorable. But the threatening aspect of the clouds soon vanished and the day proved all that could have been desired.

Under the efficient management and control of the Chief Marshal every detail of the vast parade had been determined, and so complete were the arrangements, and so faithfully were they carried out by his Aids and the Assisant Marshals and Aids of the different divisions, that the procession moved promptly at eleven o'clock, the appointed time. The streets were packed with spectators, and every window, balcony and piazza was crowded with citizens or guests who heartily cheered the numerous beautiful floats, tableaux and trade representations. The decorations displayed were by far the most extensive, artistic and elaborate the city had ever seen. On the route of the procession the decorations were of course the most general and profuse, but many even of the dwellings and other buildings not so favored were gaily decked out in holiday attire. The City Hall, county and district court houses, registry buildings, public library and police station were artistically draped and festooned in handsome



designs. The City Hotel was one of the first buildings to be decorated, and was surely one of the finest.

An arch of fine proportions spanned Main street near City Square, gracefully decorated with evergreens and flags, and bearing on its eastern face the legend—

“'39. 250th Anniversary of Taunton. '89,”
and on its western face the legend—

“'39. Sons and Daughters Welcome Home. '89.”

On the westerly side of the Common raised seats were provided, and there during the parade were assembled three hundred boys and girls of the grammar schools under the charge of Mr. Fred. W. Howes, the music teacher. They greeted the procession as it passed with patriotic songs, fluttering handkerchiefs, clapping hands and enthusiastic cheers. Nothing on the route of the procession was so thrilling and beautiful. The eyes of many glistened with tears while their faces beamed with smiles, as they passed this blooming array of the coming generation.

No mere enumeration of the varied representations of our arts, industries, manufactures and trades, which so largely constituted the attractive features of the procession, can give an adequate idea of the fulness, completeness and magnificence of the display as a whole. Never before did our own citizens behold such a demonstration of our broadly diversified industries, and of the degree of excellence attained in them. For one day we could well afford to be proud of our progress and attainments.

The towns of Norton, Dighton, Raynham and Berkley, daughters of Ancient Taunton, added features of great historic interest to the parade by their fine displays. Much labor and thought had evidently been bestowed upon the details of their representations by the town committees, for which they are deserving of very great credit.

The procession extended over a distance of four miles and was arranged in the following order.

FORMATION OF PROCESSION.

Four Mounted Police—Platoon of Police under command of City Marshal Francis L. Dow. American Band, Providence,
D. W. Reeves, Leader.

Chief Marshal, HENRY M. LOVERING.

STAFF.

Chief of Staff, LIEUT.-COL. ALFRED B. HODGES.

AIDS.

William H. Bent,	N. H. Skinner,	Silas D. Presbrey,
F. L. Fish,	Edward B. Maltby,	William R. Billings,
F. S. Babbitt,	Edward Mott,	Orville A. Barker,
George H. Talbot,	Joseph A. Bullard,	Oliver Ames, 2d,
Giles L. Leach,	John W. Rogers,	Arthur R. Sharp,
George F. Howard,	Horace W. Durgin,	Cyrus Savage,
John C. Sharp, Jr.,	H. Frank Reed,	Edward Lovering,
George C. Morse,	Edward F. Galligan,	John J. Barker,
Fred. S. Hall,	H. P. Copeland,	Henry S. Hack,
Joseph S. Tidd,	William C. Davenport,	W. F. Kennedy,
C. B. Gardiner,	W. J. Clemson,	William M. Lovering,
Frederick Thayer,	George F. Chace,	William F. Palmer.

FIRST DIVISION.

CAPT. ALDEN H. BLAKE, Assistant Marshal.

AIDS.

Col. Elisha Doane, Capt. Geo. A. King, Lieut. Chas. F. Park,
F. Arthur Walker, Edward King, John C. Macdonald.
Company F, 1st Regt. Infantry, M. V. M.
Taunton High School Cadets.

CARRIAGES,

Containing His Excellency Oliver Ames, Governor of Massachusetts, and Staff; His Honor, R. Henry Hall, Mayor of the City of Taunton, President of the day; Hon. Marcus Morton, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Mass.; His Honor the Lieut.-Governor and members of the Executive Council; Invited Guests; the



TABLEAU VIVANT.

Dighton Rock. First Approach of Civilization.

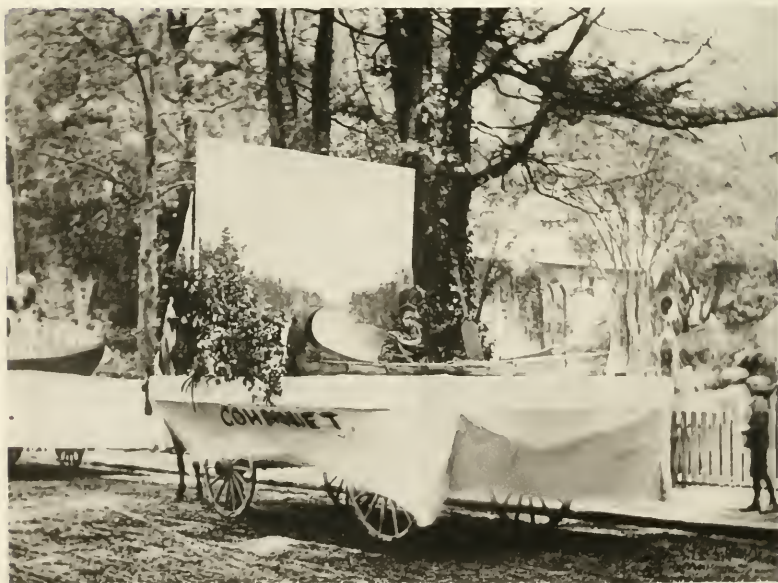


TABLEAU VIVANT.

Cohannet, the Land of Snow.

Orator, Poet, and Toastmaster of the day; Members of Congress; Members of the Massachusetts Senate and House of Representatives; Members of the City Government; Veterans of Co. G, 4th Regt. M. V. M., (3 mos.,) and distinguished citizens.

HISTORICAL TABLEAUX.

- No. 1. DIGHTON ROCK, the First Approach of Civilization.
- No. 2. COHANNET, the Land of Snow.
- No. 3. ELIZABETH POLE, "Dux Femina Facti."
- No. 4. THE CAPTURE OF ANAWAN.
- No. 5. THE LEONARD HOUSE.
- No. 6. THE PURITAN PARSON, a Leader of his People.
- No. 7. JESSE SMITH AND HIS WELL-KNOWN STAGE COACH.

SECOND DIVISION.

H. A. CUSHMAN, Assistant Marshal.

AIDS.

Charles B. Hathaway, John C. Chace, Frank R. Washburn,
Henry A. Pratt.

Representations from towns which once formed a part of Taunton.

NORTON, INCORPORATED 1711.

Represented by the Crescent Drum and Fife corps, sixteen men.

E. R. Lincoln, six-horse team representing heavy teaming, with banner bearing the legend, "Norton 1711—1889."

Geo. H. Talbot, four-horse team with large load of combed wool, representing wool scouring.

A. H. Sweet, two two-horse teams and two one-horse teams with wood and paper boxes, representing wood and paper box manufacturing.

A. G. Pierce, one two-horse team with cases, representing cotton yarn manufacturing.

J. S. Wood, two two-horse teams, representing agricultural implements, wood and coal.

DIGHTON, INCORPORATED 1712.

Represented by carriage with national flag bearing the inscription,
Dighton, 1672,—1712,—1889.

Grand Army veterans in two carriages.

Committee of the town in carriage.

L. Lincoln & Co., paper manufacturers, carriage with raw material, carriage with manufactured articles.

E. Almy, loaded wagon representing grocery trade.

School Children in two barges and carriage.

C. S. Chace, florist, carriage with display of plants in bloom.

J. A. Lewis, carriage with nursery stock and flowers.

Dighton Fruit Growers Association in six carriages.

C. N. Simmons, boat mounted on wheels with seine and fixtures, representing the herring fishery.

BERKLEY, INCORPORATED 1735.

This part of the Division formed at Burt's corner, in Berkley, and marched to Taunton in the following order, where it joined the rest of the Division.

Marshal, GILES L. LEACH.

AIDS.

Thomas P. Paull,

Jesse P. Leach.

Cavalcade of fifty horsemen in uniform, the horses handsomely caparisoned, with colors inscribed,

“Berkley, 1735—1889.”

Captain, Rollin H. Babbitt,

1st Lieut., Charles French,

2d Lieut., Thomas F. Burt,

3d Lieut., Adelbert Stone.

Color-bearer, James F. Clark.

School Children and Teachers in two barges.

The Berkley Gleaner, carriage with editor and reporters.

Eight milk wagons, four butcher carts, representing the milk and meat interests.

C. D. Babbitt, florist, carriage with display of plants and flowers.

THIRD DIVISION.

This entire Division was furnished by the town of Raynham, once a part of Taunton.

RAYNHAM, INCORPORATED 1731.

The following Committee of the Town had charge of the display, which was exceedingly fine.

Jesse King,	Charles B. Gardiner,	Soranus W. Hall,
Charles H. Lewis,	Charles T. Robinson.	Edward F. Leonard.
Nathan W. Shaw,	Alexis C. Dean,	Joseph R. Preshe,
Edward B. Wilbur,	Damon D. White.	Elwyn S. Harlow,
David G. Dean,	Cyrus Leonard, 2d,	Edward B. King,
	Sidney K. B. Perkins.	

The Division formed at Raynham Centre, and marched to Taunton, where it joined the procession.

ORDER OF DIVISION.

The Middleboro' Brass Band.

CAPT. CHAS. T. ROBINSON, Assistant Marshal.

AIDS.

Soranus W. Hall,	Edward B. Wilbur,	Elwyn S. Harlow,
Cyrus Leonard, 2d,	Henry H. Robinson.	

Barge containing the Town Officers.

Cavalry Co. A: Capt. B. B. Cain.

Cavalry Co. B. Capt. Frank Williams.

Floats drawn by oxen, carrying paintings of the old Anchor Forge, the old Meeting House, the Fowling Pond, the ancient Leonard House, the Washburn House, also a team carrying a model Anchor, marked 5,500 pounds, representing the business once extensively carried on at the Anchor Forge.

Team carrying "Old Tobey," a cannon used in the Revolutionary War, now owned by the Tobias Gilmore families, at North Raynham.

Children of the public schools in four barges.

D. D. White & Co., float, with men and women at work, illustrating the process of manufacturing shoes.

G. B. & E. Williams, float, illustrating the Herring Fishery.

The Milk Business was represented by the teams of Dean Bros., Geo. F. Fletcher, Jos. H. Gregory, Jesse King, Job G. Robinson, Mervin W. Leonard.

Nathan W. Shaw, Barge, representing some of the branches of Market Gardening.

Bradford D. Snow, Team containing curious ancient articles, very useful in olden times, now but seldom seen.

M. B. Leonard, load of sawdust, a product of the saw mills much in demand.

Thirteen yoke of large Oxen were a noticeable feature in this display.

FOURTH DIVISION.

Spary's Military Band, W. C. Spary, Leader.

ABNER COLEMAN, Assistant Marshal.

AIDS.

Benjamin H. Baker, Jerome B. Mason, Albert L. Carpenter.

FIRE DEPARTMENT OF THE CITY OF TAUNTON.

Rescue Hook and Ladder Co. No. 1.; Captain D. L. Brownell.

Steam Fire Engine Co. Niagara No. 1.; Captain A. F. Sprague.

Steam Fire Engine Co. Edward Mott No. 2.; Captain T. C. Lucas.

Hose Co. No. 3.; Captain William H. Cushman.

Fire Engine Co. Charles Albro No. 4; Captain H. J. Kingsley.

Hose Co. No. 5, Captain T. W. Porter.

Hose Co. No. 6, Captain E. Francis.

Hose Co. No. 8, Captain E. Mallon.

Veteran Firemen, under command of Ex-Chief Edward Mott.

Old engines "Oregon," "Elizabeth Poole," "Hancock."

APPARATUS.

Hook and Ladder No. 1, Engine No. 1, Hose No. 1, Engine No. 2,

Hose No. 2, Hose No. 3, Engine No. 4, Hose No. 4,

Hose No. 5, Supply wagon,



TABLEAU VIVANT.

Elizabeth Poole Making her Purchase, as represented on the City Seal.



TABLEAU VIVANT.

Capt. Church at Anawan's Rock.

FIFTH DIVISION.

CAPTAIN Z. SHERMAN, Assistant Marshal.

AIDS.

Henry D. White, George F. Seaver J. Edward Seaver,
 Lewis B. Hodges.

Post No. 3, Grand Army of the Republic, 100 men, with Continental Drum Corps, of Providence, R. I.

Sons of Veterans, General Couch Camp No. 26, 50 men.

I. O. O. F., Patriarchs Militant, Canton Cohannet, No. 49, 30 men.

Manchester Unity, I. O. O. F., Friendship Lodge, No. 6429,
 150 men, with Taunton City Fife and Drum Corps.

Catholic Total Abstinence and Aid Society, 100 men.

Division 8, Ancient Order of Hibernians, 100 men, with the
 Fall River Fife and Drum Corps.

Y. M. C. T. A. & L. Society, 100 men, with Carter's Band.

Whittenton C. T. A. & B. Society, 60 men.

Society of St. John the Baptist, 50 men, with Whittenton Brass Band.

French Naturalization Club, 50 men.

Woman's Christian Temperance Union, barge.

Taunton Tennis Association, Tally-ho Coach.

Improved Order of Red Men, Winnecunnet Tribe, No. 71, under
 command of Sachem Albert S. Eldridge.

Order of the Iron Hall, Branches No. 439, 473, 607, 612.

SIXTH DIVISION.

Hill's New Bedford Brass Band, George Hill, Leader.

CAPT. WILLIAM R. BLACK, Assistant Marshal.

AIDS.

William F. Bodfish, George E. Dean, Herbert Fisher.

Representations of Various Branches of Business in the City of
 Taunton.

The Butchers' Association, 50 Men in Uniform.

Trades Wagons, Nos. 1 to 50.

EXHIBITORS.

A. White & Co.	Cobb, Bates & Yerxa.
L. H. Goward.	M. J. Gammons & Co.
Geo. E. Packard.	Gifford & Trafton.
Geo. Williams.	A. J. Pierce.
Alfred Boardman.	Frank Beaulieu.
A. O. Packard.	Eustus C. Bassett & Co.
P. Williams & Co.	Geo. T. Bullock.
W. F. Bodfish & Co.	Henry Paling.
Reilly Bros.	Hamilton Parker.
Ingell & Clapp.	Geo. W. Parker.

Robert Coutts.

SEVENTH DIVISION.

MAJOR JOSEPH J. COOPER, Assistant Marshal.

AIDS.

Capt. Zeba F. Bliss, Charles T. Williams, G. A. Babbitt.

Weir Stove Company, 150 men in line, with Drum Corps.

Floats and Wagons representing the Manufactures of Taunton.

Nos. 50 to 100.

EXHIBITORS.

Brick Makers Asso.	Taunton Copper Mfg. Co.
Presbrey Stove Lining Co.	Brownell & Burt.
Union Stove Lining Co.	Elizabeth Poole Mills.
Mason Machine Works.	No. Dighton Co-op. Stove Co.
Dighton Furnace Co.	West Silver Co.
Phoenix Mfg. Co.	The New Process Twist Drill Co.
Peck & White.	John B. Sullivan.
Reed & Barton.	H. A. Williams & Co.
J. H. Sproat.	Leonard Co-op. Foundry Co.
Taunton Crucible Co.	S. A. Dudley.
A. Field & Co.	Barker & Mason.

Strange's Machine Works. Whittenton Mfg. Co.
J. A. McDonald.

EIGHTH DIVISION.

PHILANDER WILLIAMS, Assistant Marshal.

AIDS.

Lyman Mason, John H. Eldridge. Henry N. Hopkins.

Representations of the Trades and Business of Taunton.

Trades Wagons, Nos. 100 to 150.

EXHIBITORS.

Staples Coal Co.	Jos. Peltier.
Briggs & Co.	M. A. Cleary.
Nelson Mallet.	Clark Bros.
N. Crapo & Bro.	Wm. R. Black.
Manter Bros.	A. Milot.
W. H. Chase.	Centennial Tea Co.
P. Coyle.	L. E. Leonard Heirs.
Quigley Bros.	R. H. White.

Dr. C. W. Gregory.

NINTH DIVISION.

Martland's Band of Brockton, Mace Gay, Leader.

WM. H. LEWIS, Assistant Marshal.

AIDS.

Bradford D. Albro, W. H. Gaffney, George F. Story.

Representations of the Trades and Business of Taunton.

Trades Wagons. Nos. 150 to 200.

EXHIBITORS.

Colby's Clothing House.	Hunter Bros.
Taunton Clothing Co.	Fred. A. Jones.
N. H. Skinner & Co.	Soule Piano Co.
F. W. Ganong.	Chas. W. Coops.
Davenport & Mason.	H. L. Davis & Co.
Thos. O. Falvey.	Thos. Cusick & Sons.
W. N. & M. G. Smith.	Morton Bros. Steam Laundry.

W. L. Presbrey.	John D. Robinson & Co.
Chas. H. Washburn.	Peter H. Corr.
Pierce Hardware Co.	C. Coleman.
Sanborn & Pye.	Taunton Lumber Co.
P. H. Kiernan.	H. A. Dickerman.
B. Kiernan.	J. Hayden.
Dunbar's Drug Store.	U. M. Haskins.
Geo. F. Williams.	

FORMATION OF PROCESSION.

The first division formed on Summer street, right resting on Main street, at Cedar street.

The second division formed on Dean and Main, right resting on Main at Union.

The third division formed on Dean, right resting on Dean at O. C. R. R. crossing.

The fourth division formed on School, right resting on Main.

The fifth division formed on Spring and Bow, right resting on Spring at Summer.

The sixth division formed on Broadway, right resting on Broadway at City Square.

The seventh division formed on Cedar, right resting on Cedar at Main.

The eighth division formed on Weir and High east of Weir, right resting on Weir at City Square.

The right of the ninth division formed on Court, resting on Court at City Square, and the left of this division formed on Crocker Square, and Cohannet, west of Crocker Square, with right resting on Crocker Square at City Square.

ROUTE OF PROCESSION.

Main at Cedar street,—City Square. north side,—Winthrop,—High,—Weir,—West Water,—Second,—Somerset avenue,—Webster,—Harrison avenue,—Harrison,—Winthrop.—High,—Washington,—Pleasant,—Broadway,—Washington,—Grant,—Cedar,—Fruit,—Union,—Main.—Spring,—Summer,—Main,—City Square.

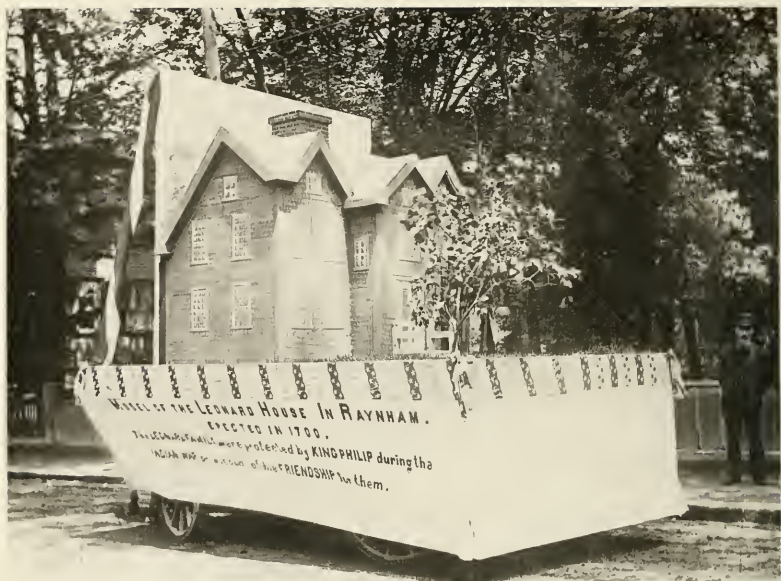


TABLEAU VIVANT.

The Puritan Parson, a Leader of his People.

The procession completed its march and reached City Hall on its return at about three o'clock, where it passed in review before the Chief Marshal and his Aids, Distinguished Guests, His Honor the Mayor and the City Government; after which the several Divisions as they arrived at points previously designated, left the procession and were dismissed in perfect order, so that all confusion was avoided.

Nothing occurred on the route to mar the complete success and enjoyment of the parade.

The immense crowds that thronged City Square were entertained in the afternoon by the playing of the bands, which were stationed at different points on the Common.

The Celebration closed with a grand display of fire works in the evening at Agricultural Park, furnished by Hyde & Co., of Boston, who superintended the exhibition under the general direction of the committee on fire works. In addition to the usual display of rockets, Roman candles, mines, &c., the following set pieces were presented:

WELCOME.

ETOILE MAGIQUE.

WHEEL OF PROMETHEUS.

{ CROWN WITH DATE 1639. }
 { FLAGS " " 1889. }

CONSTELLATION.

BUYING THE LAND,—INDIAN FIGURES WITH ELIZABETH POLE.

PORTRAIT GEN'L COBB, AND MOTTO.

POLKA PYRAMID.

FALLS OF NIAGARA.

CITY SEAL.

It was an extremely satisfactory exhibition and reflected great credit upon the committee having the matter in charge.

No satisfactory estimate can be made of the number of people who were present to witness this closing performance. It has been variously placed at from ten to twenty thousand, and even more.

But when the brilliant display was over, the vast assemblage dispersed quietly and peaceably, as became the descendants and successors of the venerated colonists of 1639.

And so ended our Quarter Millennial Celebration.



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.
Occupying Site of the First Church Erected in Taunton.



HISTORICAL HALL.

DONATION AND LOAN EXHIBITION

IN HISTORICAL HALL.

At a meeting of the Joint Committee of the 250th Anniversary Celebration, in City Hall, Feb. 23d, 1889, a vote was passed, that Historical Hall be opened for the reception of portraits, articles and relics of historic interest, for the entertainment of visitors during the days and evenings of the anniversary, and the following Committee was chosen to carry the vote into effect, viz: Rev. S. Hopkins Emery, Mr. J. F. Montgomery, Mrs. R. Henry Hall, Mrs. S. R. Townsend, Mrs. H. M. Lovering, Mrs. J. E. Sanford, Mrs. Frederick Mason, Mrs. Thompson Newbury, Mrs. E. T. Jackson, Mrs. George Brabrook, Mrs. N. E. Baylies, Mrs. Chas. L. Lovering, Mrs. Walter J. Clemson, Miss Adeline S. Baylies, Miss Sarah B. Williams, and two ladies from each of the six towns of ancient Taunton, and John W. D. Hall, Chairman.

In compliance with the foregoing action the chairman called a meeting of the Committee in Historical Hall, May 6th, for conference, relative to obtaining portraits, ancient relics, &c., for exhibition during the contemplated celebration, June 4th and 5th.

At this meeting Taunton, Norton, Dighton, Easton, Raynham and Berkley were represented by ladies enthusi-

astic in the cause of the celebration. The proceedings were introduced in a brief address by the chairman :

Ladies and Gentlemen : We are called together for a pleasing, not an irksome duty. Men have been making preparations for months to inaugurate a celebration worthy the occasion—the 250th natal day of our ancient pilgrim town.

Now the women propose to take action in a modest, less conspicuous way to honor the day and entertain visitors who may gather here during the anniversary, and wish to enjoy a quiet rest from the jostling crowd out of doors, during the day and evening. This hall was appropriately selected for that purpose. Three women donated \$500 each for membership to consummate the enterprise, by securing the hall for memorial and historical purposes. This thoughtful generosity of women is of rare record.

As this hall is forever dedicated to the above objects, it is proposed, with the advice and co-operation of women, to secure the donation or loan of memorial portraits to be placed upon these walls, of revered men and women who have passed away, that they may look down upon us with favor and benediction. Three of our lady members have recently passed away and we hope to have their portraits, in memoriam.

Also, rare memorial relics, which have been carefully laid away for years, are solicited for the same historic, instructive purpose. All donations and loans will be duly recorded and safely cared for. This is a brief key note to our proceedings. Rev. S. H. Emery, was elected Secretary.

A committee was appointed, consisting of two ladies from each ward and two from each town, to solicit donations and loans, and they proceeded to work with alacrity, worthy the contemplated object.

Ample arrangements were made in due season for the contemplated exhibition, and on the 1st and 3d of June the

exhibitors began to throng Historical Hall with their donations and loans, from the several wards of the city and adjoining "daughter towns." The subjoined reports in detail comprise the donations and loan exhibits on the days of the celebration.

PORTRAITS DONATED.

Washington—full size copy of Stuart's painted 60 years ago,—by
Bristol County Nat. Bank.

1. Francis Baylies,—by John Ordronaux, LL. D., N. Y.
2. Edmund Baylies,—by Mrs. Nathalie E. Baylies.
3. Judge Laban Wheaton,—by Mrs. Eliza B. Wheaton, Norton.
4. John Daggett, late Pres't.—by his daughter, Mrs. G. Sheffield.
5. Dr. Alfred Baylies,—by Mrs. Frances A. Baylies.
6. Samuel L. Crocker,—by his daughter, Mrs. D. N. Couch.
7. William Allen Crocker,—by his son, Geo. A. Crocker, N. Y.
8. Harrison Tweed,—by his son, Charles H. Tweed, N. Y.
9. Dr. Ebenezer Dawes,—by his son, Rev. E. Dawes, Lakeville.
10. Rev. Mortimer Blake, D. D.,—by Mrs. Graham.
11. Dr. Dan King,—by his daughter, Mrs. Alex'r H. Williams.
12. Samuel O. Dunbar,—by Chas. A. Moore, St. Paul, Minn.
13. Maj. Gen'l. G. H. Crosman,—by his son, J. H. Crosman, N. Y.
14. Willard Lovering,—by his sons, Charles L., William C., and
Henry M. Lovering.
15. Robert Strobridge Dean, (from Hunter's easel.)
16. H. B. Wetherell,—by his brother, H. W. Wetherell, Chicago.
17. Abraham Lincoln,—by Harlus W. Wetherell, Chicago.
18. Daniel Webster,— " " " " "
19. Chas. Richmond,—by his son, Capt. Henry Richmond, N. Y.
20. Albert Field,—by his son, William T. Field.
21. Mrs. Abigail (Tisdale) Trescott,—by E. D. Tisdale.
22. Joseph Dean,—by Rev. S. Hopkins Emery.
23. Timothy G. Coffin,—by Hon. E. L. Barney, New Bedford.
24. Silas Shepard,—by his daughter, Mrs. Lewis R. Chesbrough.
25. Elias Strange,—by his son, Emerson C. Strange.
26. Ben. Franklin, in Fr. court dress, 1785,—by J. W. D. Hall.

27. Horatio Leonard,—by Mrs. B. Franklin Dean, Raynham.
28. Dr. Zephaniah Leonard,—by Gustavus Dean, “
29. Rev. S. Hopkins Emery,—by Gilbert R. Manter.
30. Frederic Crafts,—by Mrs. H. W. Crafts, Abington.
31. Charles Sumner,—by J. W. D. Hall.
32. Washington and his Generals,—by H. W. Wetherell, Chicago.
33. Webster and the Statesmen of 1850,—by the above “
34. John Bradford Williams,—by Mrs. M. J. Hammond.
35. Washington and Henry Clay,—by J. W. D. Hall.
36. California Pioneers of New England,—by Gen. Samuel A. Chapin, Norton.

View of residences north and east of the Green, 100 years ago,—
by S. A. Williams.

Original deed of “Taunton North Purchase” 1689—signed by
Gov. Wm. Bradford, only one extant.

Original deed of 200 acres territory to Captains Thomas and James
Leonard for the Chartley forge, 1696—origin of Norton.

Deed of Dighton Rock.—procured by Niels Arnzen.

PHOTOGRAPHS—PORTRAITS.

Mrs. Frances Baylies, Mrs. Harriet Baylies Morton, Nathaniel
Morton, John Ordronaux, LL. D., Mrs. Peddy (Leonard) Bowen,
a medallion,—all by Mrs. L. M. S. Moulton, Roslyn, N. Y.

Rev. Caleb Barnum,—by Mrs. Ann S. B. Vickery.

Sam'l Caswell,—by his grand daughter, Mrs. W. Billings.

Alexis Caswell, ex-pres't Brown University,—by same.

Henry G. Reed, Edmund H. Bennett,—by Rev. S. H. Emery.

Isaac Babbitt,—by Emerson C. Strange.

Col. J. Sullivan Lincoln,—by Miss Ellen Lincoln.

Leonard-Padelford Mansion,—by E. E. Leonard.

William Rotch mansion,—view of Union St., New Bedford, in
1800,—by W. Macfarlane.

The following is a list of the exhibitors and articles exhib-
ited: from—

WARD ONE.

Mrs. David Wastcoat—silver tankard, silver porringer, silver
sugar tongs 150 years old; silver snuff box date of 1771; a candle.

stick which was used on a table at which Gen. Washington sat; a china coffee pot, a laughing cup, a glass punch bowl, a tumbler, two pictures 150 years old. All these articles formerly belonged to the grandparents of Mrs. Wastcoat.

Mrs. Martin J. Lincoln—an old chair.

Isaac W. Wilcox—an old stand, a foot stove and warming pan, a calash, three pewter porringers, one bowl, two mugs, six small silver spoons, formerly belonging to the Wetherell family; a large silver spoon formerly belonging to the Ingell family, each article over a century old.

Mrs. Charles Husband—a small table over a hundred years old, formerly owned by Miss Abigail Foster; a sampler wrought by Mrs. Husband in 1821; picture of first steam cars used in America.

Mrs. Nathan Pratt—a silhouette of her father, Deacon Asabel Bliss.

Mrs. J. A. Peckham—miniatures on ivory, of her father and mother, Eliab W. Metcalf and Mrs. Lydia (Steadman) Metcalf.

Mrs. Abram Briggs—an ancient chair.

Miss Mary E. Wilcox—two platters and three creamers, each over 150 years old, a plaid cloak 97 years old.

George A. King—a flint lock gun used in the war of 1812, andirons.

Mrs. Herbert Pierce—spinning wheel, a bunch of flax, a pair of snuffers.

Mrs. J. A. Peck—picture of her grandmother, Mrs. Abigail (Leonard) White, an old mirror, 200 years old,—bought in Paris.

Mrs. Dexter Horton—pair of wine glasses.

Mrs. Thomas Goff—an old picture, "The Age of Man."

Mrs. John Blake—sword used in war of 1812, enrollment list.

Mrs. J. C. Bartlett—a portrait of her great grandmother, the wife of Rev. Stephen Hull, a former minister of Raynham.

Miss Alice Crossman—a silver spoon, 150 years old, a china cup and saucer.

Mrs. Elias A. Morse—a picture of the old Elliot house, which stood opposite Music Hall.

Mrs. M. Babbitt—a home made linen towel.

Mrs. R. Temple—a pair of satin slippers, a century old, a reticule, a beaded bag.

Mrs. Edward Temple—pitcher, 150 years old, ancient looking glass, a foot stove.

The Misses Husband—oil painting of Mr. Charles Husband at the age of 15, a portrait of the same at 60.

Miss M. Wilson—home made linen, a striped blanket.

Mrs. Edward Mott—warming pan, pitcher, two silhouettes.

James E. Wilmarth—picture of the old Cohannet Tavern.

Miss Ellen Luscomb—an oil painting of Mrs. Mary J. (Haskins) Lincoln.

Mrs. A. W. Ashley—two ancient pictures, of Christ and his mother.

Mrs. N. Paige—a platter, a plate.

Mrs. Job Crossman—a very old silver spoon.

Mrs. R. H. Hall—a mortar and pestle, linen table cloth, three silhouettes, a coffee pot, china tea caddy, two pewter plates, two china plates, a brown platter, a wooden bowl,—each article over 100 years old.

P. Williams—picture of the "Old Hall Homestead," Dean St.

Mrs. Philander Williams—coffee pot, plate, water pot, large tumbler of flowered glass, foot stove, each over 100 years old; infant's dress embroidered in 1828; a picture in memory of Paul Leonard, who died in 1814.

Miss Phebe Robinson—a picture, worked in silk, in memory of a child of Ephraim Raymond and Polly, his wife; a chair 80 years old, a platter with boat.

Mrs. John W. Dixon—a coffee pot, over 100 years old, a sugar bowl, two tea pots, plates, glass decanter, 100 years old; cup and saucer, fruit dish, a platter, each very old; an old portmanteau, picture of Leigh Richmond and John Wesley.

Mrs. D. S. King—three ancient books.

John C. Walker—a portrait of his father, Joseph Walker.

Mrs. Charles H. Lincoln—six old plates, two silver spoons, over 100 years old; an old pitcher, a mustard jar, punch tumbler, plate and platter, each over 100 years old.

Mrs. Robert Crossman—an account book of 1767.

Mrs. Charles A. Hathaway—coat of arms of Hathaway family.

Misses Ann E. and Elizabeth A. Dean—plate, cup, and saucer, formerly belonging to their grandmother, Mrs. Amy (Francis) Walker, and each over a century old.

Geo. H. Park—a cane, belonging to the Stephens family, in 1730; worked pocket, over 140 years old, the Bible of Samuel Stephens, printed in 1762, the agreement concerning the Mill privilege at N. Dighton.

L. C. Porter—Anti-Masonic medal of 1806.

Arthur E. Park—horn pepper box, over a century old.

John F. Park—warrant for collection of state tax of Taunton in 1754.

Frederic W. Park—portrait of his grandfather, Capt. Richard Park, of Westville.

Miss Mary J. Walsh—homespun linen, 150 years old.

Miss Alice C. Walsh—prayer book of 1735, arithmetic, 1716.

L. F. Dary—an almanack, 1779, a Bible, 1792.

Mrs. John E. DeBlois—a dictionary of 1600 to 1700, Bible printed in 1715, sampler wrought by Miss Scott in 1741, coat of arms wrought in silk in 1763, three pieces of china ware over 200 years old, three pieces of china ware 130 years old.

Mrs. Edward Bliss—coffee pot, plate, and cup, made in China for her grandfather, over 100 years ago.

Mrs. Thomas Bates—a platter, over 100 years old, formerly belonging to Mrs. Abigail (White) Babbitt, her grandmother.

Mrs. John Lovell—cup and saucer, over 100 years old, a plate, formerly belonging to Gov. John Hancock.

Mrs. Isaiah Crowell—a sun glass, 150 years old, a skirt, spun and woven by her grandmother, a century ago.

Mrs. McCrillis—a book "Parable of the ten virgins," printed in 1695.

Mrs. Mary I. Richmond—a chair, 150 years old, formerly the property of Rev. Thomas T. Richmond, and originally belonging to Judge Sam'l Tobey, of Berkley.

Mrs. Albert D. Davol—a chair and tinder box, each over 100 years old.

Mrs. George F. Seaver—a white bedspread, pink bedquilt, linen sheets, pillow cases and towels, pair of ear rings, two brass candlesticks, silver knee buckles, silver spoons, a tin lantern, embroidered pocket books, chain,—each article a century old; two china cups 120 years old; glass castor and vinegar cruet each 150 years old, two dolls 90 years old, sampler 85 years old, sampler 91 years old, two portraits 65 years old, lace and muslin embroidery from 55 to 70 years old; a Poem, written in 1772, a sermon, in 1792, three books of 1746,—1763,—1797; two silk dresses 60 years old.

Mrs. Shubael Bliss—bedspread, spun and woven by her great, great grandmother, over 100 years ago.

Miss Ann E. Wilmarth—platter, 125 years old, pewter porringer 100 years old, formerly belonging to Mrs. Mary Keith, the mother of Mrs. Samuel O. Dunbar; the sword carried by her father Learned Wilmarth, when captain of Norton Artillery, and his portrait.

Mrs. Jeremiah J. Whitmarsh— a scarf which was brought from the East Indies by Capt. Robert Whitmarsh of Dighton and is about 150 years old; sampler, wrought by Sally Talbot of Dighton,—daughter of Seth Talbot, 105 years ago.

Mrs. A. C. Brownell—portraits of her father and mother, Lemuel M. Leonard and Mrs. Mary L. (Babbitt) Leonard; a standing stool, over 100 years old used by the ancestors of Mr. A. C. Brownell, a chair 106 years old, formerly belonging to her great grandmother, Mrs. Bathsheba (Luscomb) Babbitt.

Mrs. Francis B. Perry—silver dollar 1797, an iron pipe, brought from England 225 years old, seven pieces of china ware over a century old, miniature of Capt. Solomon T. Hallett of Yarmouth, painted in 1822 in France, a "Zion's Herald" of 1828; a poem by Christopher Smart, copied from the Providence Patriot of June 14, 1820.

Miss C. A. Luscomb—two ancient bonnets.

Mrs. J. Alfred Messinger—two tea spoons, coffee mug, plate over 150 years old.

Mrs. Hugh Cunningham— a cup, saucer, and creamer, each 150 years old, formerly the property of Galen Hicks.

P. H. Pickens—compass and chain, 100 years old, made and used by Silas Pickens.

Fred. A. Pickens—watch 106 years old, a box 193 years old.

George A. Washburn—portrait of his grandfather Isaac Washburn; a drummer's coat, worn in the war of 1812.

Mrs. N. J. Crossman—portrait of Learned J. Wilmarth, her father.

Mrs. Edgar G. Blanding—portrait of her father, Rev. Horace Seaver, a satin picture wrought by her mother, Mrs. Louisa (Lothrop) Seaver.

Miss Maria W. Nichols—portraits of her father and mother, James M. Nichols and Mrs. Eliza (Worsley) Nichols.

John F. Montgomery—an ancient sun glass, used by Nicholas Roche to light his pipe; money scales, used by the same over 100 years ago; a carved busk; silver spoons that belonged to John Montgomery, who came from Scotland 1714; a pocket belonging to the great grandmother of Mrs. Wm. H. Phillips.

O. L. Merriam—a rare engraving "The Politician" by Hogarth; "The Jocund Peasants," by DuSant—brought from England by Mr. Jacques, the donator of Worcester Hospital.

George E. Manning—ancient books, two of them over 150 years old, the others about 80 years old.

George W. Colby—portrait of his father, Samuel Colby.

J. J. Cooper—a cane, made from a part of Fort DuQuesne, which was built in 1753.

Miss Anna D. Reed—a china tea caddy, which once belonged to her great grandmother, Mrs. Abraham Dennis, and afterwards to her great aunt, Mrs. Rebecca (Dennis) Padelford, wife of Judge Seth Padelford; a pair of brass andirons, which belonged to her mother, Mrs. Wm. Reed.

WARD TWO.

Mrs. D. S. Elliot—copy of "Boston Gazette," Oct. 10, 1757; a pewter drinking cup for invalids, a pewter porringer, a pair of pointed slippers 125 years old.

Joseph E. Wilbar—portrait of his father Dea. Joseph Wilbar.

Harry A. Holmes—an ancient shawl.

Capt. Alden H. Blake—the commission of Edward Blake, gentleman, ensign of the company of Capt. Samuel Williams, issued by Gov. Jonathan Belcher, 1737.

Charles Emerson Strange—portrait of his grandfather Elias Strange.

Mrs. F. A. Brown—a tea pot, over 100 years old.

Mrs. Nancy H. Hood—linen vest 106 years old, lady's outside pocket, 90 years old.

Miss H. Swasey—a christening robe 200 years old, foot stove, over 100 years old, a mandolin, a flint box.

Mrs. Mary A. Corder—pewter plate 141 years old, pewter sugar bowl, a copy of the "Connecticut Gazette," 1788, silver shoe buckle.

William Bosworth—pewter platter, pewter porringer, lantern, horn comb case, china platter, each over 100 years old; old trunk, hammer 40 years old, a bed wrench in use 50 years ago, rule 40 years old, razor and strap 90 years old, shuttles for hand weaving, spectacles 80 years old, tinder box 75 years old, tobacco 33 years old, house pocket book 90 years old, tea pot 75 years old; old coins, two wine bottles which came from England in 1780; continental currency, 1776-1778; Portuguese coin, 1795; Washington Medal 1799 and a coin of 1700, both found in ruins of "Knotty walk" building; books of 1751 and 1790, pamphlets from 1793 to 1843, newspapers from 1793 to 1844, coarse flax, yarn spun from flax; timber pins and hand made nails, from "Knotty walk" building, a cane made from wood of same.

Bristol County Nat'l Bank—portrait of Theodore Dean.

Broadway Church—portraits of Rev. Erastus Maltby and Hezekiah W. Church.

Mrs. Morse—portraits of her parents.—Laban Eddy and Mrs. Clara Cook Eddy.

Mrs. W. J. Breed—portrait of her father Jesse Smith.

Mrs. Walter J. Clemson—portrait of her father William Mason, a hurdy-gurdy made by him when 15 years old.

Heirs of Jared Sparks—a desk used at the first Congress, 1789.

Mrs. G. R. Huntley—portrait, Isaac Babbitt—donated.

WARD THREE.

Mrs. O. S. Paige—ancient "New England Memorial;" needle work, wrought by Miss Esther Stephens, in 1780; two cut glass dishes, owned by Rev. Nathaniel Fisher, first minister of Dighton, 1710; a book owned by Edmund Andrews, of Taunton, in 1725; stays, worn by Miss Susanna Lincoln, on her wedding day, Jan. 14, 1779; a china plate and a book, each 133 years old and belonging to the same.

Miss Caroline W. Crandell—portrait of her great grandmother, Mrs. Abigail (Farrington-Weatherby) Johnson; three tea spoons formerly belonging to the Weatherby family; pictures of Faith and Charity, published in London, 1799.

Mrs. Thomas Ellery—ancient tea pot, sugar bowl, creamer. A. E. Bragg—china punch bowl over 180 years old.

Mrs. William B. Crandell—miniature of her father, Charles Weatherby, born 1778, died 1812.

Mrs. Helen B. Crane—a silver dollar which went through the "great fire" of 1838, three silver spoons, wooden mug, pewter dish, 150 years old, wine glass over 100 years old.

Miss Mercy M. Hathaway—almanack of 1772, sampler, history of King Philip's war, infant's wardrobe.

Henry M. Lovering—a portrait of his grandfather, Gov. Marcus Morton.

Elisha C. Clark, New Bedford,—portrait. Leonard—Padelford mansion, east Court House—donated.

WARD FOUR.

Miss Sarah B. Williams—a table cloth spun by hand, a ring, each of these have been in Carver family over 100 years; cup and saucer, a plate 150 years old, continental currency, 1775-76, formerly belonging to Capt. Geo. Williams; book, printed during the reign of George the Second; book of sermons 1638, an account of coronation of Charles the Second, Jan. 1, 1651, ancient documents belonging in the Williams family; two paper knives made from the timber of the first meeting house in Taunton; home made towel, formerly belonging to Mrs. Jean (Gordon) Strobbridge; cup

and saucer, formerly belonging to Mrs. Anna (Strobridge) Dean; the wedding dress of Mrs. Abigail (Williams) Hodges; dinner horn over 100 years old, used in the family of Capt. George Williams.

Miss Celia A. Williams—silver plated teapot.

Mrs. Gertrude W. Austin—embroidered linen robe.

Joseph F. Dean—tobacco box.

J. Lewis Austin—silver watch, flint lock musket, bread peel.

Mrs. B. Church Vickery—a pitcher over a century old.

Miss Alice M. Williams—white silk stockings and white satin vest, worn by Capt. Abiathar Williams on his wedding day,—Oct. 18, 1801.

Miss Charlotte A. Williams—large silver spoon, belonging in the Carver family over 100 years.

Mrs. J. W. D. Hall—a pair of gold ear rings, worn by a bride in 1783, pair of gold cuff buttons, mourning piece, wrought in 1805, a silver sugar bowl, 80 years old, glass tea bottle of 1776, India wrought shell comb.

Miss Julia Seaver—portraits of her parents, Benjamin Seaver and Mrs. Susanna Lippitt (Hull) Seaver, a silver pitcher.

Mrs. James Brown—ancient china tea set, a sermon preached by Robert Cushman, in 1621, at Plymouth, printed, 1626.

Mrs. Lewis R. Chesbrough—three line engravings of old heads, 1640; old china, very old embroidery.

Mrs. F. C. Brown—snuff box, 100 years old, Bible of 1715, two cups and a saucer, 100 years old.

Elizabeth Hall—portrait of Rev. Pitt Clark.

H. L. Waldron—law dictionary, 1773,—ancient document.

J. W. D. Hall—autograph letter of President George Washington in 1796 to John Marshall, Chief Justice in 1801, found in a Virginia mansion during the rebellion: U. S. continental currency, three notes issued in 1776,—paid to Samuel Hall, a revolutionary soldier in 1783.

Mrs. Wm. H. Fox—Bible, 1756, Gazetteer, 1796.

Mrs. Lois H. Congdon—confederate currency, \$1, and \$5, respectively, also continental money.

Herbert A. Dean—watch charm, knee buckles, spur, sleeve buttons.

Mrs. G. Frank Dean—a reel, formerly belonging to her great grandmother, two samplers 101 and 82 years old respectively; kid mits, child's embroidered apron, cup and saucer, over two centuries old, ancient jug.

Miss Anna L. Bonney—portrait of her great, great, great grandmother, Mrs. Abigail (Crossman) Thompson, born about 1700; portrait of Nell Gwynne, Duchess of St. Albans, painted by Sir Peter Lely, and an old portrait of 17th century,—each formerly belonging to her grandfather, Cephas Thompson; ancient Flemish tapestry, from a cartoon of Raphael, nearly 300 years old, formerly the property of the same.

Mrs. Mary B. Washburn—cradle 200 years old, ancient skates.

Samuel G. Hicks—a square over 100 years old.

Mrs. J. W. Dean—ancient pepper box.

Mrs. J. S. Rounds—miniature on ivory of her father, E. B. Leonard, at the age of 17, wedding ear rings of her mother, Mrs. Harriet (Ingell) Leonard; miniature on ivory of her grandfather, Samuel Leonard, and a portrait of the same; portraits of her grand parents, Jonathan Ingell and Mrs. Freelove (Andrews) Ingell; a quilt embroidered by Mrs. E. B. Leonard.

Miss A. S. Baylies—portrait of Charles R. Vickery; miniature on ivory of Capt. Job Hall,—painted by Sir Joshua Reynolds; portrait of James Sproat, who was born in 1758; Sproat family tree, embroidered on satin; miniature on ivory of Apollos Leonard; a china plate and coat of arms of the Beale family brought from England by Miss Beale, who married Jonathan Cobb of Taunton; cup, saucer and salt cellar, formerly owned by Rev. John West.

Joseph S. Pitts—portraits of his parents,—Abner Pitts and Mrs. Eleanor (Sanford) Pitts.

Mrs. Henry G. Reed—infant's shoes, worn by her grandfather, Christopher Carpenter, who was born in 1762.

D. A. Burt—ancient books,—“Curious Epitaphs,” “Looking unto Jesus” or a “Collection of Experiences and Sermons” preached in the 17th century and printed 1762; “Farrago” 1733.

Mrs. James B. Lane—brass candlestick, silver spoon, 109 years old, formerly belonging to her grandmother, Mrs. Mary Williams Byram.

Miss Charlotte Morton Lovering—portrait of her grandmother, Mrs. Charlotte (Hodges) Morton, wife of Gov. Marcus Morton.

D. D. Perkins—a wooden sugar bowl, made by one of Washington's army at Valley Forge, in winter of 1777-8.

George M. Woodward—portrait of his father, James Woodward.

Gertrude I. Pond—a pamphlet containing letters respecting the American Revolution, written by John Adams, in Holland, in 1780.

The "Old Flag" of Co. G, borne by Capt. Gordon's company at Fortress Monroe in 1861—and Capt. Paull's company at the Gulf expedition in 1863-4—donated for preservation.

WARD FIVE.

Samuel A. Dean—portraits of his parents, Robert Dean who died 1822, and Mrs. Sarah Susan Leavitt (Padelford) Dean, who died 1850.

Mrs. Samuel A. Dean—a brass candlestick.

Mrs. Charles N. C. Barstow—By-laws of the proprietors of the Taunton Social Library—1836.

Miss Anna W. Dean—a sermon preached May 16, 1792; home made long white gloves; a glass mug and a cream pitcher, each 100 years old, owned by her grandmother, Mrs. Anna (Strobridge) Dean; three white feathers, white crape collar, and white lace armlets, worn by Mrs. Betsey (Dean) Hart, on her wedding day, 70 years ago.

Mrs. John W. Hart—china plate, cherry rum bottle, a reel, swift, an embroidered silk picture wrought by Mrs. Betsey (Dean) Hart, gold beads, formerly the property of her grandmother, Mrs. Sarah (Williams) Williams, and which were given to Mrs. Williams by her father George Williams.

Mrs. Henry Shove—a pewter pot, 200 years old, used for making checkerberry tea.

Joseph H. Padelford—very old chair.

Joseph L. Macomber—a stone jar, made by Joseph Hood, in 1795.

Ebenezer A. Dean—metal pipe, hanging iron candlestick, copies of Resolves of the Legislature, 1776-1778; military order to commanders, 1780, warrant from Henry Gardner, Treasurer State of Mass. Bay, to Ebenezer Dean, Collector, 1777; assessors' book for expense of expedition to Crown Point, 1776; assessors' book for Province, Town, and Minister's tax 1767; the commission of Ebenezer Dean as Captain of Militia, from Gov. Thomas Hutchinson, under George the Third, 1772.

Mrs. Paddock Dean, who is 91 years old—a silver pepper box, 150 years old, first owned by her great grand parents, Rev. Caleb and Mrs. Priscilla (Payson) Rice; a Bible 150 years old with silver clasps, owned by Mrs. Priscilla (Payson) Rice, before her marriage; gauze veil, cushion, fan, bead bag, bracelet and pin, heirlooms in the Barnum and Vickery families; a sermon preached by her grandfather, Rev. Caleb Barnum, in 1761; rules of Princeton College, while Mr. Barnum was a student there in 1753; a picture wrought by her grandmother, Priscilla Rice (afterwards the wife of Rev. Caleb Barnum) while attending school at Boston; pine apple pitcher, formerly belonging to her father, Capt. David Vickery; china, which belonged to her mother, Mrs. Priscilla (Barnum) Vickery; a silver spoon, 110 years old once the property of Capt. Vickery and wife.

Mrs. E. T. Jackson—a Bible, 1743, once belonging to her great grand mother, Jean Gordon, who married Henry Strobbridge.

Mrs. William Richmond—a shawl, over 70 years old.

Jonathan Richmond—saddle bags, an ancient uniform coat worn by Walter Richmond in 1806.

Miss Alla R. Soper—Continental currency, 1775,-76,-77: a chest, 191 years old.

Miss Jennie M. Soper—snuff box, silver spoons.

Mrs. William F. Dean—silk bed quilt, 120 years old, which belonged to her great grandmother, Mrs. Polly (Dean) Williams, wife of Capt. Jonathan Williams, of Raynham.

Lysander Soper—a basket for holding quills, used by his ancestor, Mrs. Hannah (Standish) Staples, wife of Dea. Seth Staples, and grand daughter of Capt. Miles Standish, of Duxbury.

Mrs. Dr. Haskell—pitcher and sugar bowl.

Mrs. Charles T. Robinson—clock, 115 years old, once owned by Gen. Cromwell Washburn.

Mrs. Nathalie E. Baylies—epaulettes of Major Hodijah Baylies, of Dighton, aid-de-camp to Gen. Washington; two silver teaspoons, a silver watch, a pewter platter, three pieces of Continental currency, \$60, \$8, and \$5, respectively; each of these articles formerly belonged to Major Baylies; an invitation from the Gov. of Mass., to Major Hodijah Baylies, July 1, 1799; letter of Judge Hodijah Baylies, resigning the office of Judge of Probate for Bristol County, in 1834; letter from General Washington to Major Baylies, 1783; letter from Gen. Benjamin Lincoln to Maj. Baylies, 1778; an address or "broadside," distributed among the British soldiers, in England, during the Revolutionary War; a silver teaspoon belonging to Gen. Benjamin Lincoln; ancient pointed shoe, which was worn by Miss Elizabeth Lincoln, of Dighton, who died in 1824, aged 85 years; facsimile of the inscription on "Dighton Rock."

Mrs. Samuel W. Robinson—Indian arrow heads.

Miss Margaret S. Dean—cup and saucer, chocolate bowl, birch bark rind, *Gentleman's Magazine*,—1751; home made linen, hand reel, a tin lantern; a pewter platter, marked Z. D. 1720,—this was bought in Boston, by Miss Zipporah Dean, daughter of John and Hannah Dean, before her marriage to Benjamin Dean, who was son of Benjamin and grandson of Walter Dean. Mrs. Zipporah (Dean) Dean died Sept. 27, 1778, in 75th year.

Mrs. Eliza Ann Padelford—*The History of the Reformation of Religion in the Realm of Scotland*, from 1422 to 1567, which was brought from Scotland, by Mr. Wade, her great, great grand father; *Ledger of Edmund Williams*, beginning 1740; a very old *History of New England*.

Samuel W. Macomber—a tea jug, which once belonged to the first Richard Williams of Taunton.

Edward O. Hart—a sun glass.

Mrs. Edward O. Hart—ancient books.

Lysander W. and Edward O. Hart—a pair of pitchers.

Mrs. Julia Fairbanks—flax, prepared for spinning; a bonnet, made by "Ma'am Barstow," wrought worsted pocket book, 125

years old; a piece of an embroidered wedding petticoat, 125 years old.

Miss Harriet A. Barstow—linen pillow cases, spun and woven by her great grandmother, Anna Strobridge of Lakeville, before her marriage to Joseph Dean, of Taunton, in 1774. She was daughter of Henry and Jean (Gordon) Strobridge; gold beads which once belonged to Mrs. Jean (Gordon) Strobridge; a lilac silk shawl formerly the property of Miss Lois Dean, daughter of Joseph and Anna (Strobridge) Dean, who died a few years since, aged 91; a bible, a large spoon, six tea spoons, the last three articles have been in the Carver family over a century.

WARD SIX.

Mrs. Cyrus M. Hoard—portrait of her father, Capt. Allen Presbrey; Kensington work, wrought in 1806, by her mother Mrs. Mary (Locke) Presbrey; wedding tea set belonging to her grandparents, Seth Presbrey and Mrs. Sarah (Pratt) Presbrey; portraits of the same; a map of the world, drawn by Capt. Allen Presbrey, with a quill pen; portrait of her uncle, Capt. Seth Presbrey, Jr., born 1779.

Henry F. Cobb—silver porringer and mug, belonging to his grandfather, Jonathan Cobb.

Mrs. J. F. Montgomery—wedding vest of John Montgomery; ancient spoon; chair 150 years old.

Mrs. Ruth A. French—table cloths, towels, and pillow cases, woven 114 years ago, by her grandmother, Mrs. Burt, when 17 years of age; ancient dishes; two shawls 100 years old; old books; teaspoons 112 years old.

Mrs. Frances P. Tripp—portrait of her father, Alpheus Sanford; portrait of her son, Dr. F. D. Tripp; several ancient books, formerly belonging to the Sanford family; a book of sermons, 1685.

Mrs. Edward Cushman—pewter platter, owned by her ancestor, Capt. Miles Standish; three ancient receipts; flax wheel and flax; cotton hank bag 150 years old; two deeds, of 1712-1725, signed by Thomas Cushman, a grandson of Elder Cushman; book, 1743; hatchel; three silver tea spoons over 130 years old; embroid-

ered pocket book 117 years old; toilet set, made by Mrs. E. S. Cushman, from home made linen, 100 years old.

Mrs. A. Jones Sanford—copy of the "Massachusetts Sun," 1775; a spear, used in the battles of Lexington, and Bunker Hill, by Capt. John Sanford.

Mrs. A. H. Hathaway—spoon mould, 100 years old.

Herbert M. Bassett—a chair, played with by six generations of children, and formerly the property of Richard Hathaway.

George G. Crane—the sword carried by his great grandfather, Brig. Gen. George Godfrey, in the war of the Revolution.

Mrs. Seth E. Williams—snuff box, tea spoon, cup and saucer, ear ring, sword, knee buckles, beaded bag, continental currency,—each article over a century old; silhouettes of Misses Hannah and Hertilla Seaver.

WARD SEVEN.

Mrs. John Dunbar—mirror, pewter porringer, cup and saucer, tea spoon, milk pitcher, wooden candlestick, each over a century old; shawl 110 years old; salt cup 150 years old; pewter platter, three pewter plates, horn pepper box, each 125 years old.

Mrs. George Dunbar—linen bedspread, woolen bedspread, towel, handkerchiefs, tea spoon, bead bag, plate, basket, snuff box, each article over 100 years old; six ancient coins; decanter; bead purse: a copy of "Ulster County Gazette," Jan. 4, 1800; Bible of 1752; tea spoon 175 years old; Indian History of 1772.

Mrs. Hezekiah Merrill—sugar bowl, tea spoons, ear rings, breast pin, each over 100 years old; book of 1785; gold beads; linen shawl 125 years old; woolen coverlet.

Mrs. Wm. Kittrell—a book, 1785; counterpane, table cloth, three towels, each over 100 years old; a chair used in Westville church, during the pastorate of Rev. Alvan Cobb.

Frank Bragg—pewter platter and plate, over 100 years old; cup and saucer 75 years old; pitch pipe; cider mug.

Mr. Whitman—a Fiji war Club; tea pot 200 years old; linen gloves, spun and woven by a bride of 200 years ago; worn by the groom at weddings for four generations.

Henry Hart—a drawing of Dighton Rock, 1821; horn of the oryx; books of 1793 and 1795.

Mrs. John Wilmarth—coin of 1789; an old plate; communion service of the old Baptist church at West Taunton.

Mrs. Chester Wilmarth—silver spoons 90 years old; a pitcher 1687; bowl 200 years old; two sugar bowls over 100 years old.

Mrs. Eber Luther—Monkey jug 125 years old.

Lewis Dary—spy glass, taken from the house occupied by Jeff. Davis at the evacuation of Richmond.

Mrs. Allen Burt—a history of England, 1759; a plate, cup and saucer, each over 100 years old; punch glasses; copy of "Rutland Herald," Oct. 12, 1795; copy of "The Sun" a Taunton paper, July 12, 1833; sugar bowl 150 years old.

Walter Burt—ancient coin.

Miss Lucy Bliss—bead chain, 1833.

Mrs. Joseph Dunbar—sugar bowl, tea pot, creamer, three pitchers, tea cup and saucer, coffee cup, mustard cup, three plates, decanter, wine and punch glasses, shawl, collar, linen pillow cases, towels, thirty pieces of wearing apparel, each over 100 years old; cup and saucer 80 years old; linen apron front 150 years old; pocket with skeins of linen and cotton 125 years old; three dresses and other articles, formerly belonging to the LeValley family; nine ancient coins; ear rings 125 years old; hair bracelet 75 years old; two books over 100 years old; gold beads over 125 years old.

Mrs. Abigail Pratt—large painted plate over 200 years old.

Abel Crane—scales for weighing money, two centuries old.

Wm. J Walker—needle book 125 years old; silver sleeve buttons.

Benj. Lincoln—cradle; documents 1680.

Dea. Lorenzo Lincoln—spectacles 150 years old.

Miss Mary R. Lincoln—open work plate 175 years old; doughnut fork 200 years old.

Miss R. Babbitt—two cups and saucers, 125 years.

Mrs. Samuel W. Gulliver—sugar bowl; china cup and saucer; painted tea set 125 years old.

Mrs. Randall Bullock—a plate over 200 years old.

Frank Walker—suit worn in war of 1812, by George Walker.

Mrs. R. Hoyt—sword 75 years old, owned by Capt. Ebenezer Walker.

Mary W. Lincoln—bottle called "Woodpecker bottle," 200 years old.

Miss Caroline Lincoln—basin, pewter platter, pewter plate, earthen dish, each 250 years old; pitcher 200 years old; two handkerchiefs, infant's cap, each 125 years old; breadth of silk dress 120 years old; pewter plate 115 years old; towel woven in 1783, by Bethany Lincoln; ancient book.

WARD EIGHT.

Mrs. B. F. Knox—a small wooden box, formerly the property of Rev. Samuel Danforth, the fourth minister of Taunton.

Mrs. George Harvey—a cannon ball of Revolutionary War.

Mrs. Enoch Chase—tea pot 150 years old.

Miss Sarah Brabrook—two ancient books: sampler 97 years old; two silver tea spoons over 100 years old.

Mrs. H. J. Burbank—large glass tumbler.

Mrs. George Brabrook—portrait of her mother, Mrs. Fidelia (Danforth) Knowles; bead necklace, a bag, child's hood, child's bank; mug and plate having Franklin's proverbs on them; china cream pitcher; a cake plate; Majolica cup and saucer: bonnet and veil of 60 years ago; armlets: two samplers 68 and 83 years old, respectively.

William H. Tyndal—two nails from the coffin of Elizabeth Pole.

Edwin M. Hills—a chair 140 years old, originally owned by Daniel Williams,—born 1718,—died 1782: infant's homespun linen garment and caps over 125 years old; china tea caddy, creamer, and plate, 85 years old; blue crockery ware 65 years old; milkweed cape made in 1830, by his mother, Mrs. Sarah M. (Pratt) Hills; portrait of his father, Capt. Seneca Hills.

Mrs. David D. Babbitt—saddle bags, pewter dish, flint, tinder, tobacco and cartridge boxes, each over 100 years old, and once owned by Obed Dean, a Revolutionary soldier, born 1750; wooden plate; spice mill; three almanacks, 1783, 1788, 1789; Indian hatchet.

Mrs. Albert Mitchell—Indian arrow head and spear head, dug up near Scadding's Pond in 1868; a copper penny blank, found in the old copper privilege, near the site of Reed & Barton's dam, a pink pearl, found in a fresh water clam taken from Taunton River.

Frank L. Fish—a spoon, made from silver buckles worn by his grandfather in 1770.

Miss Maude Fish—a beaded needle book 65 years old.

John A. Abbott—valuable papers, printed in 1789; Magazines, printed in 1748–1793; coat of arms of his great grandfather, Rev. Jonathan French, of Andover, Mass., a descendant in the 5th generation from John and Priscilla Alden.

Mrs. J. A. Abbott—a warming pan 200 years old; mirror 175 years old; china cup and saucer 150 years old; pewter plate 170 years old; earthen churn with wooden paddle, 150 years old; china cup and saucer 100 years old; china fruit dish 150 years old.

Mrs. Frank L. Fish—lady's tobacco and pipe case over two centuries old; a foot stove used in church 175 years ago; a pewter platter 170 years old; a beaded bag 65 years old.

Mrs. Theo. P. Hall—a sermon on the parable of the prodigal, delivered to the third parish in Newbury, Aug. 18, 1793, by Abraham Moor, A. M.

NORTON.

Mrs. Moses Lincoln—almanacs, 1789, 1790, 1791: a Bible 133 years old, formerly owned by Dea. Simeon Williams, of Taunton, and bought Mar. 3, 1762, for 18 shillings.

Miss Kate L. Wood—almanacs, from 1759 to 1788.

John D. Hardon—commission of his grandfather, Lieut. Isaac Hardon, 1790.

Eben Willis—kettle-drum, carried by his great grandfather Nathaniel Stone, at the siege of Boston, also used in French war; it was made in 1745, by Robert Crossman of Taunton, drum maker of New England.

Mrs. Eunice M. Blanding—Robinson Crusoe, 1794.

Mrs. E. T. Wetherell—a tile from the Peddy Bowen house, built before 1700.

Miss Lizzie A. Smith—needle case and thread bag over 100 years old, formerly the property of her great grandmother, Mrs. Lydia (Perry) Bowen, of Rehoboth.

Mrs. John D. Hardon—sampler wrought by Mrs. Eunice (Sweet) Hardon.

Miss Lintha A. H. Francis—silver spoon 128 years old, formerly belonging to her great grandmother, Mrs. Elizabeth (Williams) Gilbert; a small earthen pitcher, given to her grandmother, Mrs. Mary (Kimball) Goward, in 1781; a spinning cup, used on a wheel to wet the fingers when spinning by her grandmother, Mrs. Mercy (Gilbert) Francis, who was born Aug. 25, 1776; a pepper box owned by the same.

Alexander Foster—honey jar, brought from England nearly 200 years ago, by his great grandfather, Alexander Foster, who settled in Attleboro', Mass. The jar has never been used for any other purpose.

George R. Perry—portrait of Rev. Pitt Clarke; pitch pipe 85 years old, made and used by his father, Capt. Lemuel Perry.

Mrs. Joseph Newcomb—a specimen of ancient carving; Indian adze.

Mrs. Allen Blandin—iron knocker formerly on the door of the first church built in Norton.

Mrs. William W. Smith—sword broken in a battle, formerly owned by her great grandfather, Mr. Davis, of Mattapoisett, who was drafted in the Revolution; his son Joseph Davis (her grandfather) went in his place.

Mrs. S. J. Freeman—two commentaries, of 1618 and 1677.

Miss Achsah Williams—a standard, brought home from the French War, by her great grandfather, Capt. Benjamin Williams, who commanded a company in 1756, at Fort William Henry.

Mrs. Jones Godfrey—powder horn taken in French War; ancient church records of Norton; sword and spear, carried by Capt. Tisdale Godfrey; a Bible of 1752.

William D. Wetherell—a deed, bearing the only known signature of William Wetherell, the first settler of Norton; pair of scales; Indian relics.

Alden H. Leonard—ancient bullets and flints: Indian relics.

Miss Sophia C. Sweet—a medical work, 1561, brought from England by her great grandfather, Dr. John Blake; a ferule used in school, by her grandmother, Sarah Balcom, born 1757, and afterwards wife of Jason Blake.

Miss Harriot A. Newcomb—portraits of her grand parents, General Thomas Lincoln, of Taunton, born Sept. 4, 1759, died Aug. 10, 1836, and Mrs. Esther (Newland) Lincoln, born May 23, 1766; sampler wrought by Esther Newland in 1784; saucer over 100 years old, from a set owned by her great grand parents, Ambrose Lincoln and Mrs. Hannah (Clapp) Lincoln; bill of sale of two slaves to Ambrose Lincoln, Mar. 16, 1747; a permit for a slave to visit Stoughton, May 31, 1749; a lottery ticket, to aid in removing rocks and shoals from Taunton Great River, May, 1760; school certificate to Betsey Lincoln, bearing the signature of Rev. John Pipon; promissory note, having the signature of Alexander Hamilton, June 5, 1788; writing book of Ambrose Lincoln, 1716; a love letter, written Jan. 13, 1763, by Miss Sarah Bowen, of Dighton, to Amos Newland, of Norton, with draft of reply, and a second letter, in rhyme; a purse made from home made crewels, by Hepzibah Lincoln, born 1749, died 1782, first wife of Solomon Wetherell, of Taunton; home made, plaid linen shirt, worn by Ambrose Lincoln, Sr., who died Mar. 3, 1795; a silver stock button, worn by Gen. Thomas Lincoln; quill pen, used by Hannah C. (Lincoln) Brigham, while at school in Boston; home made garments over 100 years old, worn by her grandfather, Josiah Newcomb, Sr.; silver shoe and knee buckles, owned in Newcomb family over 100 years; infant's slip and cap of ancient make; cane, owned by Nathaniel Newcomb, made from wood from the Hancock house, Boston, erected in 1729; cartridge box carried in Revolution; letters patent, signed by James Madison, president of United States, Dec. 3, 1814; kitchen furniture; an India rubber, made many years before Goodyear's patent was issued; printed account of battles and songs over 100 years old; two India cotton dresses, worn in 1799, by Nathaniel Newcomb, who was born Apr. 12, 1797; silver tray and snuffers.

DIGHTON.

Mrs. Abbie W. Whitmarsh—tea caddy and pickle dish, over 150 years old; foot stove and brass candlesticks, over 100 years old; pair of slippers which were worn by a lady when riding with Gen. LaFayette; nutmeg grater, 1787; a serpent; a bass horn, made of wood; clarionet.

Edward R. Talbot—clarionet played by William B. Whitmarsh; bass viol, tuning fork, and psalm book, used by Capt. Seth Talbot; violin, played by Frank Whitmarsh; communion service, given by Joseph Atwood; these articles were used in the Dighton church, when Elder Gushee was pastor; ancient pistol used in the Revolutionary War.

William Z. Whitmarsh—cane, made from the stick which "stout" George Briggs used to successfully defend himself from a press gang, in Havana, Cuba.

C. C. Andrews—English verge watch.

Mrs. E. F. Andrews—linen, woven over 100 years ago.

Mrs. Caroline Atwood—portrait of her grandfather, Col. Robert Elliot, painted by Copley, in 1765; Elliot and Coggeshall coat of arms; three pictures over 100 years old.

Mrs. George E. Gooding—clock reel of great age.

Mrs. George B. Townsend—the first china cup and saucer used in Berkley.

Mrs. L. P. King—ancient documents; bowl; chair.

Mrs. M. A. Trafton—ancient documents; cup and saucer; china plate; covered mug.

Mrs. William Babbitt—ancient hall clock.

Mrs. William Hathaway—ancient shell comb; iron mortar.

Mrs. Edward R. Talbot—two pewter platters.

Weston Earle—buckles; Indian pestle; arrow points.

Chandler Bro's—candlesticks 250 years old; ancient tongs.

George A. Shove—fourteen pictures, entitled,—Landing of the Northmen; A Cove in Autumn; Design for a Sanitarium; A Large Allowance; Schr. Oliver Ames, with a free wind; Waiting for a Breaker; Early October; Interior of a Glass-covered Street; The

River Bank; After Sunset at Sea; H. H.; A Farm Lane; Coach Dog; Aglae and Boniface.

Whitman Chase—carved chest 200 years old, two cups and saucers, sugar bowl, pitcher, plate;—these articles formerly belonged to the Doane family, of Harwich, Mass.; a powder horn, dated, Crown Point, July 29, 1760, formerly belonging to John Chase.

George D. Chase—collection of ancient coins.

Sarah Babbitt—bellows 100 years old; flax reel.

William O. Lee—bread peel; bed cord made from hogs bristles, each article over two centuries old; ancient bit.

Sylvanus Chase—spoon mould; pair of cards; canteen used in war of 1812; ancient plane, and saw.

S. M. Smith—looking glass 125 years old.

The Rose Farm—china tea set used in 1754 at the wedding of Sylvester Atwood and Ruth Church, the youngest granddaughter of Capt. Benjamin Church; china which belonged to Mrs. Elizabeth Atwood, wife of Joseph Atwood, gent.; a table which belonged to the same; a rapier left in the house of Joseph Atwood by a Tory officer; pudding spoon, made with jack knife by Thomas Rose, while in Dartmouth Prison; linen wheel of 1778; iron dogs of 1758; silver spoons of 1700; old documents 1648 to 1700; ancient window and shutters.

EASTON.

Miss P. H. Reed—pipe box, and tobacco tongs, 100 years old, formerly owned and used by Rev. William Reed; tinder box; Latin Grammar, 1767; pewter porringer 75 years old; sermons by Cotton Mather and others, 1695-6.

Miss A. H. Reed—the Universal Spelling Book, 75 years old; pewter porringer.

Miss L. E. Gilmore—a Bible 1715; Young Ladies' Accidence, 1804; pewter platter; two pewter basins; two pewter porringers; pair of iron andirons; three crane hooks; iron pot; two pewter plates; iron candlestick; ivory and shell snuff box, 100 years old.

Mrs. Richard Hunt—iron skillet, sugar bowl, tea pot, each 150 years old; pewter basin 125 years old; glass salt cellar over 100 years old.

Daniel B. Wheaton—tongs, for turning steak before an open fire.

W. H. Lothrop—a rule used in the Revolution, by Capt. Elisha Harvey.

Edward D. Williams—flint lock musket, with bayonet, 175 years old, used in French war, by Mr. James Dean; cartridge box 175 years old; sword, saddle bags, horse pistol cases, each over 150 years old; teapot, sugar bowl, creamer, each 150 years old; wooden skimmer and ladle; a pitcher 175 years old, used for flip, by Mr. Thomas Williams, tavern keeper on the Bay road, Easton; book of votes, belonging to the Taunton North Purchase Company, begun in 1664. All these articles came from the oldest house in Easton, built in 1715.

Mrs. Bernard Alger—a piggin, over 100 years old; pair of snuffers and tray; an embroidered bed spread, designed and wrought over 100 years ago, by her aunt, Miss Vesta Howard, who became the wife of Dr. Samuel Guild; the flax of which this is made, was grown, spun, woven, and dyed, on the farm of Roland Howard, Esq., of Easton.

Rev. William L. Chaffin—Interleaved Almanack, 1754, used by Rev. George Farrar, of Easton, as a diary.

Charles H. Reed—a Yankee Baker.

Mrs. O. J. Gilmore—iron pot; glass mug; string of gold beads; canteen of Easton Light Infantry; copy of "Columbian Centinel," Jan. 14, 1797; Heliotype likeness of her grandmother, Mrs. Olive (Poole) Reed, wife of Rev. William Reed, pastor of the church in Easton from 1781 to 1806.

N. W. Perry—a half hour glass, 80 years old; Hancock writing; watch, owned by Lieut. James Leonard, about 1680.

Mrs. William White—tinder box, sun dial, eagle, scarf, each over a century old; continental money \$30, 113 years old.

Guilford White—sash; Bible Dictionary, 1622.

William Bosworth—samplers; almanac, 1801; ancient deed.

Mrs. Charles Wade—Indian pipe; cape.

Mrs. E. A. Fobes—book; warrant.

Ross Heel Co.—Louis XX heel.

Mrs. Clara Bonney—vase 150 years old.

The office of O. Ames & Sons—bust of Oliver Ames, 1st.

O. A. Ames—portrait of his father, Hon. Oakes Ames.

Mrs. O. Ames—portrait of Oliver Ames, 2d.

Paul Dean Lodge—portrait of Rev. Paul Dean, from whom the Lodge received its name.

RAYNHAM.

Mrs. B. Franklin Dean—portraits of Sheriff Horatio Leonard and Dr. Zephaniah Leonard; military cap; canteen; gun and sword used in the War of Revolution.

Miss Louisa Snow—portraits of George the Third and his Queen; a Nelson pitcher; ancient hymn book.

Alfred Gilmore—continental money, hymn book, plate.

Mrs. Cassander Gilmore—child's suit, fancy box, powder case.

Mrs. Ira Dickerman—Indian pestle; pewter platter; a wooden shovel made by an Indian.

Nathan H. Fuller—writing desk, chair, pewter plate; each of these were once the property of Gov. Wm. Bradford.

Mrs. Jairus Gushee—tea cup and saucer 100 years old; coffee cup brought from England 150 years ago.

Mrs. Betsey Leach—spectacles, apron, sampler.

Dea. Samuel Jones—Indian relics.

Frederic W. Gushee—boy's jacket, feather cape, shell comb, snuff box; a George Washington pitcher.

F. Carey Andrews—pitch pipe.

Willard T. Copeland—lady's busk.

Nathan W. Shaw—journal of Revolutionary War; lace, cup and saucer, two punch bowls, two old portraits, ancient book; cow bell over 200 years old.

Miss Harriet Robinson—a leaf from a bible that was brought over in the Mayflower; towel made 1740.

William Caswell—a carved whale's tooth.

Melvin Leonard—silver creamer, given by Paul Leonard to his bride 150 years ago.

Mrs. Crocker—wedding vest of Deacon Elijah Leonard.

Mrs. M. J. Hammond—wedding dress and shoes of Mrs. Elijah Leonard, 150 years old.

Mrs. Alice King—christening blanket over 200 years old, an heirloom of the Leonard family.

Mrs. Chauncy Washburn—embroidered blanket 150 years old, formerly belonging to Mrs. Barzillai King; ancient wedding slippers; sash formerly worn by Gen. Cromwell Washburn.

Mrs. D. D. White—pitcher formerly belonging to the Washburn family.

Miss Mary Hall—ancient bellows.

Mrs. W. S. Briggs—ancient sampler.

Capt. Charles T. Robinson—portrait of his father, Charles Robinson.

Miss Susie King—drawing of the house erected about 1750, by Stephen Shaw.

Mrs. Alcott J. Lincoln—\$3 continental money; ninepence of 17—

Mr. William Wilbur—two pewter platters.

Mrs. Bradford Wilbur—papers printed in 1798-1801: almanack of 1770.

Elijah M. Richmond—homespun linen handkerchief.

Seth D. Wilbur—hatchet over 100 years old; wedding waistcoat over 100 years old, made and worn by Seth Dean.

Mrs. Harlow—ancient pitcher and pewter plate.

BERKLEY.

Mrs. Nathan Bowen—ancient portrait; two silver spoons formerly the property of Col. Thomas Gilbert; tea pot, creamer, sugar bowl, pair knee buckles, muslin cap, collar, silk bonnet, each over 100 years old; two documents of 1760 and 1769, respectively: almanack, 1785.

Mrs. Edward Lyon—a plate and tea pot, brought from England 200 years ago.

Mrs. William Babbitt—a wall basket formerly belonging to the grandmother of Lucy King; canteen bottle carried through the Revolutionary War by Joseph French.

James F. Clark—ancient sword.

Congregational Church—communion cup given to the first church in Berkley, over 100 years ago, by Mr. Israel Tisdale, of Taunton.

Mrs. Alfred Boardman—shell comb, pitcher, cup and saucer, formerly belonging to her grandmother, Mrs. Lucinda (Richmond) Woodward; bead watch chain formerly the property of her father, David Woodward, Jr., and a last and pair of shoes made by him at the age of seven years: a punch glass once owned by her grandfather, Capt. Asa Arnold; string of gold beads and a needle book formerly belonging to her grandmother, Mrs. Jemima (Hodges) Arnold.

Isaac E. French—pewter goblet, spoon mould, cheese knife, flint lock pistol, a wooden lock; Indian relics found in Berkley.

Mrs. Charles Wade—two pitchers, bowl, teapot, bullet case, each over a century old.

Mrs. Simeon Briggs—fruit tray 100 years old formerly belonging to Miss Mary Richmond.

Mrs. Elijah Wilbur—two candlesticks 125 and 80 years old respectively; china plate 80 years old.

Dexter Babbitt—pair of bellows 100 years old.

Mrs. Elkanah Pierce—homespun bed quilt, long cloak, table spoon made from silver dollars each over a century old; military hat 75 years old; penmanship of 1810; pair of slippers 50 years old; two bags, two collars, shell comb, embroidery, cap, hand painted ribbon, teapot, sugar bowl, cups and saucers, cake plate; creamer 66 years old; book of 1765.

Mrs. Sumner D. Briggs—a plate 100 years old.

Mrs. Jethro Ashley—pitcher and punch glass 100 years old.

Mrs. Daphne Crane—inkstand owned formerly by Luther Crane; specimens of the penmanship of Hon. Samuel French, at the age of 75 years; weaver's shuttle 150 years old.

Mrs. E. B. Babbitt—a miniature vessel, outside shell of castana nut, two pewter porringers, platter, basin, and two plates each over 100 years old.

Mrs. Henry Hathaway—red circular cloak formerly the property of Mrs. James Webster.

Mrs. M. L. Corey—sun glass owned by her father, Capt. Tamerlane Burt; lace veil formerly belonging to her mother, Mrs. Phebe (Crane) Burt; tea set, two very old pepper bottles, pitchers; a plate 150 years old; lamp mat embroidered by Mrs. Anna (Williams) Dean, daughter of Gideon and Abigail (Burt) Williams.

Miss Nancy I. Burt—case of bottles brought from the West Indies by her father, Capt. Tamerlane Burt.

Giles L. Leach—sword made by a native of Sandwich Islands; large number of Indian relics.

Mrs. Giles L. Leach—eye glasses and warming pan 150 years old, formerly the property of Rev. Samuel Tobey, first minister of Berkley; a sermon preached by same in 1737; pitcher 110 years old imported by and bearing the monogram of the same; ancient watch; a sermon by Rev. Ephraim Judson; pewter platter, plate, porringer, old singing book.

George H. Bowers—picture of the "Brig Commerce," painted in Italy, in 1792; portrait of Capt. Jonathan Bowers, painted in Holland in 1808.

Maria Bowers—trunk 200 years old.

Annie M. Bowers—piece of a wedding dress, 1744; chatelaine bag, salve, cake basket, pickle dish, bobbin block.

Mrs. George Strange—dictionary of 1788 formerly belonging to Thomas Strange; skein of homespun linen thread.

Mrs. Andrew Coville—portrait of her father, Joseph Haskins; tea pot 150 years old.

Mrs. H. A. Dean—portrait of Dea. Thomas C. Dean; cup and saucer 160 years old; copy of the "Boston Gazette," 1733; silver porringer 125 years old; pair of scales used by Dr. Bullock; tea spoon 150 years old; cup and saucer, and punch bowl each over a century old; table spoon 93 years old.

Mrs. Thomas C. Dean—three plates formerly belonging to Sally and Lydia Hodges, grand daughters of William Hodges, who came to America about 1633 and settled in Taunton before 1643.

Mrs. Julius Haskins—platter; plate, bunch of flax.

Mrs. Alfred Pierce—china teapot.

Miss Ellen Burt—two china plates 150 years old; skirt embroidered 50 years ago by Mrs. Matilda (Burt) Burt, wife of

Thomas Burt: skirt embroidered 150 years ago by Mrs. Rebecca (Macomber) Burt, wife of Edmund Burt; pair of slippers, silver candlesticks and two work bags owned by Mrs. Rebecca (Burt) Burt, wife of Nathaniel Burt; pair of knee buckles, shoe buckles, sleeve buttons and silk stockings formerly owned by Capt. Edmund Burt; a coin of 1778; sugar tongs 100 years old; two tea spoons 200 years old.

Mrs. Thomas Dean—flax wheel 100 years old; hand reel; a Bible of 1794.

Mrs. Rhoda Hathaway—sugar bowl once the property of Mrs. Rhoda (Hathaway) Nichols; a pitcher owned by Mrs. Betsey (Weaver) Dean; a tea pot belonging to Mrs. Annie (Gifford) Shove, wife of Theophilus Shove.

Samuel S. Pierce—wooden plate 200 years old formerly the property of Martin and Wessiah Pierce; pair of brass candlesticks; watch case 200 years old owned by Enoch Boyce; pipe box formerly belonging to George Shove, a grandson of Rev. George Shove of Taunton.

Mrs. Samuel S. Pierce—infant's shoes worn by Jeremiah Pierce over 100 years ago; wedding suit 75 years old worn by Mrs. Jeremiah Pierce.

MANSFIELD.

Elkanah Hall—sermons by Cotton Mather, 1690; sermon by Rev. Joseph Palmer on the death of Rev. Roland Green; sermon preached at the ordination of Rev. Pitt Clarke, in 1793; Scripture passages acrostically arranged by Miss Abby Doggett; two copies of "Dedham Gazette," Mar. 25th and April 1st, 1814; copy of "The Yankee," Apr. 1, 1814; silver bowl 225 years old, brought to this country by George Watson; a picture of the oldest house in Mansfield, built about 1700 by Dea. Nicholas White.

Mrs. Elizabeth Green—portrait of Rev. Roland Green.

Mrs. Robert G. Parker—mourning piece.

BOSTON.

Mrs. M. Day Kimball—scales used and buckles worn by Nathaniel Morton in 18th century; two silver spoons and silver

ladle belonging to the Morton family; the belt, epaulettes and stirrups, worn by Gov. Marcus Morton, at his inauguration, in 1840.

Hon. Samuel C. Cobb—portraits of his grandfathers, Gen. David Cobb, and Hon. Samuel Crocker.

FALL RIVER.

Miss Mary A. Fry—a wooden sugar bowl over 150 years old.

BRIDGEWATER.

Horatio B. King—sword carried by John King of Raynham, in the Revolutionary War; cartridge box carried by him at the Battle of Bennington.

PORTLAND, MAINE.

Mrs. Wyer Green—shoe buckles worn by her ancestor, Lieut. Josiah Smith, an officer in the French and Revolutionary Wars.

PORTSMOUTH, R. I.

Mrs. William E. Cook, who is in her 90th year—china cup, saucer and plate each 220 years old; a wooden vegetable dish 200 years old.

The foregoing revised list of loan exhibits has been carefully prepared by Mr. Isaac W. Wilcox, for this book of the anniversary celebration under the supervision of the committee assigned the interesting duties.

J. W. D. HALL, Chairman.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON DONATION AND LOAN EXHIBIT.

The committee, appointed by the joint committee of the 250th anniversary, for the loan exhibit in Historical hall, assembled on the afternoon of May 6th, to prepare for the entertainment during the celebration, and comprised, after a few additions and changes, as follows: John W. D. Hall, Rev. S. Hopkins Emery, John F. Montgomery, Mrs. R. Henry Hall, Mrs. Joseph J. Cooper, Mrs. Elisha T. Jackson, Mrs. S. R. Townsend, Mrs. Nathalie E. Baylies, Mrs. Charles L. Lovering, Mrs. Henry G. Reed, Mrs. Henry M. Lovering, Mrs. Fred. L. Fish, Miss Adeline S. Baylies, Miss

Sarah B. Williams, Mrs. George Brabrook, Mrs. John Paull, Mrs. Walter J. Clemson, Mrs. Frederick Mason, Mrs. Frank L. Fish, Mrs. Joseph Dunbar, Mrs. Joseph Philbrick, all of Taunton; Miss Harriot Augusta Newcomb, Norton; Mrs. Ebenezer Andrews and Mrs. John A. Rose, Dighton; Mrs. Olive J. Gilmore and Mrs. John O. Dean, Easton; Miss Amy Leonard and Mrs. Alcott J. Lincoln, Raynham; Mrs. Charles Corey and Mrs. Alfred Boardman, Berkley.

After a brief encouraging address by the chairman, the ladies were assigned to duty in the wards and adjacent towns. For three weeks they devoted their faithful services in soliciting donation and loan co-operations in hundreds of residences, resulting in the most interesting and successful exhibition of the kind ever witnessed in Taunton, surprising to all visitors and to themselves in the vast accumulation, varied extent and value of the attractions.

Two lines of portraits of revered men and women, passed away, were arranged upon the walls of Historical Hall, while eight glass cases were filled with contributions of choice articles of every description, tastefully arranged—ancient books, silver ware, rare gems of vertu, crockery, coins, heirlooms and keepsakes of historic interest, which had been treasured from family to family for years or centuries, embroideries of unique patterns, photographs and medallions of those cherished in memory. Also a table the length of the hall well filled with numerous small portraits, pictures and rare articles of antiquarian curiosity, origin and interest.

The old-fashioned kitchen, improvised in the basement, Associated Charities room, by Miss Newcomb, of Norton, assisted by Mrs. Gilmore, of Easton, Mrs. Corey and Mrs. Boardman of Berkley, with its ancient fireplace, its crane, "pot hooks and trammels," unique furniture, chairs and cases, made up an interesting attraction for the young and old, many of whom were surprised at the specimens of household implements of the mothers of a century ago.

For the careful arrangement of the loans, numbering a thousand or more, by the ladies, and to their patient attendance and supervision during the four days' throng of eight or ten thousand

visitors, must be accorded the gratifying success of the exhibition and entertainment; and it was a cause of congratulation to the contributors, to the committee and all concerned, that, of the numerous articles on exhibition, none have been lost or missing. It was an auspicious auxiliary of the natal celebration of Taunton, long to be remembered by participants and visitors.

In behalf of the committee,

JOHN W. D. HALL, Chairman.

EXPLANATORY NOTE.—The Ward Committees of Taunton, appointed to solicit, and to have charge of the various exhibits, did not in every case confine themselves strictly to ward lines; this accounts for a few of the exhibits being represented in adjacent wards, other than their own.



ANCIENT LEONARD MANSION "HOUSE OF SEVEN GABLES"
of Capt. James Leonard, in Taunton 1700—Raynham 1731.



OLD GAMBREL ROOFED HOUSE.

Opposite the First Iron Works of Taunton, 1650—Raynham 1731,

[The above illustrations are from Elisha Clarke Leonard's paper on "Ancient Iron Works and Leonard Mansions," Collections No. 4, Old Colony Historical Society, kindly loaned for this book.]

MEMORIAL TABLETS.

Tablets commemorative of historic persons and places were erected prior to the 250th Anniversary Celebration, as follows:

IN TAUNTON.

Site of the First Meeting House in Taunton, erected prior to 1647. Tablet near the west entrance to the Unitarian Church grounds.

Home of Richard Williams, 1637—1692. On the estate 152 Dean street.

Home of George Hall, 1637—1669. On the estate of his descendants, 220 years, now Mrs. Mary B. Washburn's, 128 Dean street.

Home of John Deane, 1637—1660. On the estate of his descendants 229 years, now Benjamin T. Kinnicutt's, 74 Dean street.

Home of Walter Deane, 1637—1693. On estate of Samuel C. Morey, Dean street.

Home of John Pole, 1637—1659. On Morey's block, Main street.

Home of John Richmond, 1637—1664. On estate of Jonathan Richmond, a descendant, East Taunton.

Home of Rev. William Hook, first minister of Taunton, 1638—1644. On City Hall, opposite site of first meeting house.

Home of Rev. Nicholas Street, associate and second minister of Taunton, 1638—1659. On premises of William Henry Fox, corner Spring and Summer streets.

Homestead of Miss Elizabeth Pole, 1639—1653. On building of Josephus William Leonard Wilbur, 93 Main street.

Home of Thomas Lincoln, 1652—1683. On L. B. West's store.

Home of Elizabeth Pole, 1653—1654. On estate of James H. Dean, 94 Dean street corner of Winter street.

Home of Shadrach Wilbore, 1656—1697. On estate of Charles L. Lovering, 10 Dean street.

Home of John Reed, 1680—1697. On land of Henry G. Reed. In possession of the Reed family since 1680, near residence of Edwin Reed, Highland street.

Homestead of Elder Henry Hodges, 1681—1717. On engine house in Ward 2.

Home of Augustine Cobb, 1683—1717. On Tremont street, about four miles west of Green.

Home of Richard Stephens, 1683—1722. On store of L. B. West, Winthrop street.

Home of Rev. Samuel Danforth, 1688—1727. Corner of Washington and Park street.

Home of Rev. Thomas Clap, 1729—1738. On grounds of Capt. Timothy Gordon, Dean street.

Home of Hon. Samuel White, 1739—1769. At residence of Capt. William H. Phillips, on White street

Home of Rev. Josiah Crocker, 1742—1774. In southeast corner of Mount Pleasant Cemetery.

Home of Brig. Gen. Geo. Godfrey, 1756—1793. Near residence of Miss Angeline Godfrey, Tremont street.

Home of Nicholas Baylies, 1757—1807. Opposite North Dighton Foundry office.

Home of Brig. Gen. James Williams, 1768—1826. On lane leading to residence of Mrs. N. E. Baylies, County street.

Home of Rev. Caleb Barnum, 1769—1776. On building of Massachusetts Trust Company, corner of Main and Lincoln streets.

Home of Robert Treat Paine, 1769—1781. On front of Taunton National Bank.

Home of Samuel Leonard, 1776—1807. On his late mansion house Bay street.

Home of Judge Seth Padleford, 1777—1810. East of the Court House.

Homestead of Gen. David Cobb, 1779—1796. On City Lot, west of Taunton Green.

Home of Rev. Ephraim Judson, 1782—1790. On homestead of Miss Georgianna Wheaton, High street, south of St. Thomas' Church.

Home of Rev. John Pipon, 1803—1821. On estate of A. E. Swasey, High street.

Home of Samuel Crocker, 1818—1843. On lawn front of Samuel C. Cobb's residence.

Home of Charles Richmond, 1825—1843. On the Barton estate Summer street.

Home of Francis Baylies, 1836—1852. On Taunton residence of Judge Edmund H. Bennett.

Mount Pleasant Cemetery, donated by Samuel Crocker in 1836. In rear of Samuel L. Crocker's burial lot.

Tablets were prepared for Henry Andrews, 1637—1652; William Phillips, 1637—1654; William Parke, 1637—1661; James Walker, 1643—1691; Rev. George Shove, (3d minister of Taunton,) 1665—1687; but the descendants of the above have been unable to locate their last residence and the Committee await the information.

The Committee on Historic Places and Memorial Tablets in Norton made an extended and interesting report as follows :

[Report of Committee on Monuments.]

To the Selectmen of the Town of Norton.

GENTLEMEN :—At the annual meeting of the Town in April last there was chosen a committee of three viz: Sam'l A. Chapin, W. D. Witherell and William A. Sturdy, to locate and erect three monuments with suitable inscriptions thereon regarding "The First House," "The First Church," and "The Chartley Iron Works," erected in said Town of Norton.

This action was prompted by the occurrence on the 4th of June of the 250th Anniversary of the Settlement of Taunton, of which Norton was originally a portion, and became the "First Daughter" of Taunton to set up for herself, in 1711. Your committee have performed the duties assigned them and beg leave to report as follows :

The monument for "The First House" is placed on the east side of the "Bay road" leading from Taunton to Winnecunnet on the east side of the Pond, and distant fifty feet from the Pond and eleven hundred feet north of the bridge at the outlet of said Pond. This bridge is the dividing line between the towns of Norton and Taunton.

The slab erected is a blue slate stone (from a neighboring hill) 11 feet long, 28 in. wide and 6 in. thick, set in the ground four feet, and six feet out of the ground, with a smooth natural surface on the front face to receive the inscription. The top is shaped like a gable roof.

The inscription is as follows:—"Site of the First House in Norton. Built by William Witherell, A. D. 1669. Erected by order of the Town A. D. 1889." Here this pioneer lived with "Dorothy" his wife and three sons, William, Jr., 19 years of age and John of 5 years, and Ephraim and a daughter "Dorothy."

Here they lived amid the discomforts of pioneer life and the dangers of the Indian Wars under King Philip, in which "Sargeant

Witherell" took an active part and suffered severely for a long period from wounds received in the great battle at Narragansett Swamp. For which brave service the Court made him a grant of land and fifteen pounds sterling. Here they kept the first "public house" in Norton, and in 1685 he was licensed to "retail cider, beer and strong liquors."

The depression of the old cellar is now plainly to be seen with scattered stone and pieces of brick and mortar. This location was a choice one for a pioneer. The beautiful and enchanting Pond gave them an abundance of water and fish and ducks. The seven generations of Witherells scattered all around us, testify to the vigor of this old pioneer race.

The monument erected to mark the site of the "Chartley Iron Works," situate on Stony Brook, near the old mansion, built by Captains Thomas and James Leonard more than 200 years ago, about one mile and a half west of Norton Centre, is a slab of polished Quincy granite 26 in. long, 16 1-2 in. wide and 6 in. thick. It is set in the brick wall of the jewelry factory owned by Wm. A. Sturdy and occupied by Engley, Witherell & Co.

The inscription is as follows:—"Site of Chartley Iron Works. Built 1696 by Thomas and James Leonard. This Tablet ordered by the Town of Norton 1889."

The records of Norton state that these works were in operation for a hundred years or more, and brought great wealth to the Leonard family. The antiquarian may here find material for much reflection as this panorama of 200 years passes before him.

The old "Iron Forge" turned out its bars of iron (in those days when coin was scarce) which were made a "legal tender" for the payment of taxes and other public dues, and were also used in making bequests and bridal gifts.

Now the Iron Forge has disappeared and given place to the manufacture of gold and silver ornaments, which are esteemed as things of greater beauty than "bars of iron." And the old bell which hung in the belfry (now in place) on the carriage house near the old Leonard mansion then rang out notes of human bondage and called the slaves to their enforced work, and afterward it pealed the glad sound of freedom to all in the state, this being the

last locality to break the shackles. That same old bell may now be seen and heard in the tower on Oliver H. Lane's great barn near Chartley, where its welcome ring calls the laborers to their meals.

The monument for "The First Church" is also of Quincy granite, 7 feet long, 18 in. square, rustic finish, the corners are hammered and finished, the top is rounded from each side and finished.

The inscription on one side finely polished is as follows:—
"Site of First Church in Norton. Built A. D. 1710. This post ordered by the Town 1889."

It stands three and a half feet above the ground and is near the centre of the common (enclosed by an iron fence) at Norton Centre.

A second church was built in 1753 about ten feet distant, westerly, from the first church, and was supplanted in 1835 by the church now occupied on the south side of the common.

The first three pastorates of these churches are remarkable for the great length of time covered by them.

The first minister was Rev. Joseph Avery from 1710 to 1748—38 years. He married Miss Sarah Newman, of Rehoboth, at the beginning of his pastorate.

The first parsonage, a hundred yards west of the first church, still remains in good order.

Mr. Avery died in Norton, April 23, 1770, aged 83 years.

Rev. Joseph Palmer was the second pastor, from 1752 to 1791—38 years.

Rev. Pitt Clarke was the third pastor, from 1793 to 1835—42 years. He died in Norton, Feb'y 13, 1835, aged 72 years.

These three pastorates make out the round period of 108 years.

Your Committee desire to call attention to "The First Burying Ground" used by the pioneer settlers of our Town.

It lies east of the site of the "First House" and distant therefrom 193 yards, very near the edge of the cranberry marsh. It commences at the fence, is 60 feet in width and extends back easterly 110 feet. Across the west end there are four rows containing

from 35 to 40 graves without any stones or inscriptions to tell us the names of the buried ones.

It is supposed that here lie William Witherell the first settler and his family, and also those who were killed in the early Indian wars.

5th Row.—Here are only two names inscribed. Reuel Deane, 1829, and his wife, 1839.

6th Row.—Only rough stones, no inscriptions or dates, but Mr. W. Dexter Witherell states that his great grandfather, Henry Witherell, and his wife and their three children were buried in that row.

7th Row.—Only one name inscribed. That of Reuel Deane, Jr., 1805.

8th Row.—Jesse Lincoln and his relatives.

9th Row.—David Lincoln died 1822 age 95 years, and his family of three or four persons; also the grave of the second wife of the old grandfather Witherell.

10th Row.—Daniel Woodward and family of seven or eight persons.

This burying-ground was abandoned a long time ago for several reasons :

First.—It was not more than 4 or 5 feet higher than the marsh and the water came into the graves.

Second.—No conveyance was ever made to set it apart as a public cemetery.

Third.—It was a quarter of a mile distant from a public road, and could only be reached by passing through private grounds. This burying-place (in a large open pasture) is without a fence or protection from the tramping of sheep or cattle ranging in the field.

Our worthy historian, Rev. George Faber Clark, uses this impressive language regarding a burying-ground similarly neglected. "It presents a most gloomy aspect and a melancholy commentary upon the public spirit of the town, and we hope for the honor and credit of the town that these habitations of the dead will not remain long in their present poverty stricken condition."

The field next to the road, where the first house stood, belongs to Silas W. Lincoln, and the field adjoining where the graves are, belongs to the heirs of Sumner W. Lincoln or to Lloyd S. Lincoln, who will undoubtedly give a title to this lot 60 feet by 110 feet in size.

Your committee will urge the town to make an appropriation of \$100 toward enclosing this "first burying-ground" with suitable stone posts and bars of tube iron.

In conclusion, your committee will state that the amount appropriated by the Town for these monuments was \$50, and the amount expended by the committee was about \$110.

Respectfully submitted,

SAM'L A. CHAPIN,
W. D. WITHERELL.
WILLIAM A. STURDY.

DIGHTON TABLETS.

Home of Thomas Coram, 1699—1703. Front of residence of George A. Shove.

Site of First Church, 1709—1765. Front of present First Church.

Home of Col. Sylvester Richmond, 1735—1765. On Richmond Hill, south of Lower Four Corners.

Home of Hodijah Baylies, 1787—1843. At residence of Charles N. Simmons.

RAYNHAM TABLETS.

Site of Taunton Iron Works.—First in Old Colony. On site of old Forge.

Home of James Leonard, Senior, 1664—1691. On Hathaway's land, bank of Forge pond.

Home of Major Thomas Leonard, 1664—1713. On J. P. Spinney's place, opposite old Forge site.

Home of Capt. Philip King, 1683—1710. On Edward B. King's place.

Home of Capt. James Leonard, Gable House, 1700—1726. On Wm. S. Briggs' place, near the road.

Home of Capt. Israel Washburn, 1718—1796. Front of the old mansion, Gushee and Washburn streets.

BERKLEY TABLETS.

Home of John Hathway, 1658—1705. On land purchased of Rev's Nicholas Street and William Hook, now called "The Farms."

Site of First Church, 1737—1800. South of the Common, west side of the road where the third meeting house now stands.

Home of Rev. Samuel Tobey, 1737—1781. On land now owned by Elizabeth Wilbur east of the Common.

Home of Judge Samuel Tobey, 1768—1823. On land owned by Stephen A. Burt, north of the Common. His house now standing in good repair.

Home of Rev. Thomas Andros, 1799—1849. On land of his son Milton Andros, the last estate in the town of Berkley on the road to Freetown. His house still standing.

MANSFIELD TABLETS.

Cobbler's Corner,—1640. Northern angle of Old Taunton, on estate of the late Daniel Fisher, off Willow street.

First Settler, Thomas Brintnell,—1664. On West street, near Foxborough line, on estate of Miss Calista Brintnell, a descendant of sixth generation.

Home of Nicholas White, 1703—1743. On Hall street, Charles E. Hall's residence, descendant, seventh generation.

First Grist Mill,—1719. On Willow street, near the shop of T. W. Cabot & Son.

First Meeting House,—1731. South of the Green.

Home of Rev. Ebenezer White, 1737—1761. On South Main street, near Joseph D. Leonard's residence.

Home of Col. Ephraim Leonard, 1739—1786. On Mill street, East Mansfield. House still standing, owned by George W. Thomas.

Home of Rev. Roland Green, 1761—1808. On West street, near Francis A. DeWolf's residence.

APPENDIX.

APPENDIX A.

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East Taunton was formerly called Squawbetty, a name probably derived from an Indian squaw called Betty, whose Indian name was Assowetough, unto whom a tract of land was conveyed in 1673, by old Walluspaquin and William Walluspaquin and which on her death she devised to her daughter Mercey. (12 Ply. Col. Rec. p. 235.) The above named Betty was sister of David Hunter and wife of John Eechee of Titecutt, and on David's death without children, his brothers George and Joseph, "being convinced that David on his deathbed desired that his sister Betty should have some of his lands," made a partition with her, by deed dated March 11, 1697, whereby she was to have that part of said lands "next unto Taunton bounds as far up by the great river as to ye place where said David Hunter's upermost f fence came to sd River, to fence in ye neck then called David's neck." This division is recorded in XII Ply. Col. Rec. p. 243. in these words:—

To all Christian people to whome these presents shall come George Hunter & Joseph Hunter ye sons of Thomas Hunter an Indian formerly living at Tittecutt an Indian Plantation in Plimouth County Send Greeting &c Know ye that whereas Josias alias Charles an Indian Sachem late of Mattakeesset in ye County of Plimouth deceased did in his life time give unto David Hunter deceased brother unto the said George & Joseph a Tract of Lands at Tittecutt above said as may appear by a deed vnder ye hand & seal of sd Josiah dated September the eighth in ye year 1686 reference thereunto being had And whereas the sd David Hunter hath now no ehild surviving and said George & Joseph Hunter being convinced that their brother David on his death bed expressed himself so that his sister Betty, ye wife of John Eechee of sd Titecutt should

haue some of ye sd lands The sd George Hunter & Joseph Hunter do hereby for themselves and their heirs Executors & Administrators agree with each other and with their sister Betty ye wife of sd John Eechee their Executors and Administrators that ye lands given by Josias alias Charles unto sd David Hunter as in said deed is specified shall be & is by these presents divided as followeth that is to say that ye said Betty & her Indian heirs Executors Administrators & Assigns shall forever hereafter haue and hold & enjoy that part of sd land next unto Taunton bounds & as far up by the great river as to ye place where sd David Hunters upermost ffence came to sd river to fence in ye neck then called David's neck & from thence on a direct line to ye bounds betweene Middleborow's land & the said Indians land bearing ye same bredth there as it doth at ye river and that Isaac Wanno an Indian of sd Titecutt & his Indian heirs & assigns shall forever hereafter Have & hold & enjoy twenty acres of land above Titecutt's greate weair & next unto ye land given by said Josias unto old Peter late of sd Titecutt deceased said twenty acres of land to be layd as square as conveniently may be by ye great river side & also half ye grass in ye next neck below sd ware And all ye rest of sd Titecutt lands given by sd Josias unto sd David Hunter by sd deed to be equally divided between George Hunter & his Brother Joseph Hunter sd Georg Hunter & his Indian heirs & assigns To have & to hold & forever to enjoy that part next to what said Betty hath & the sd Joseph Hunter & his Indian heirs & assigns To have & to hold for ever that part next to ye land given by sd Josias unto sd Peter deceased except ye twenty acres for Isaac Wanno And in Testimony that ye said George Hunter & Joseph Hunter have divided sd lands as is above specified & that it is to ye good liking & acceptance of sd Betty & Isaac Wanno, these persons vizt ye said George Hunter, Joseph Hunter, Betty ye wife of John Eechee & sd Isaac Wanno for themselves & their heirs executors & administrators have hereunto set their hands & affixed their seals this eleventh day of March In ye year of Christ 169 $\frac{1}{2}$ in ye tenth year of ye reign of William ye third over England Scotland ffrance & Ireland King defender of ye ffaith.

Signed sealed and Delivered

Signum X of

In ye presence of us

SAMUEL PHILLIPS,
SAMUEL LEONARD,
ELKANAH LEONARD

GEORGE HUNTER [seal]
JOSEPH HUNTER [seal]
his C mark
The 9 mark of
BETTY [seal]
ISAAC WANNO [seal]

March ye 11th 169 $\frac{1}{2}$. The above George Hunter & Joseph Hunter & the abovesaid Betty & Isaac Wanno acknowledged ye above written Instrument to be their own free act & deed

Before me, THOMAS LEONARD justice.

Memorandum That on ye 17th day of September 1701 before me ye subscriber Judge of Probate for ye County of Plimouth personally appeared the above named George Hunter and ye abovesd Betty his sister and Isaac Wanno & acknowledged the above written Instrument to be their voluntary act & deed. And I do approve thereof & order ye same to be recorded.

WILLIAM BRADFORD

Entered & recorded October 28th 1701

pr SAML SPRAGUE Register.

This Indian squaw Betty seems to have had an unenviable notoriety, for previously she was indicted for the murder of her child, and also of her husband, though not convicted of either charge as appears from the following record of the trials:

At a General Court held at Plymouth, in July 1683, it was ordered that

“Whereas Awashunkes, and her daughter Betty, and her son Peter, were brought to this Court on suspition of theire haueing a hand in the murthering of a young child the said Betty had, this Court, on examination of the case, the said Awashunkes & her son and daughter sollemly affeirming the said child to be dead before it was born, and nothing as yett appeering to the contrary vnto the Court, they therefore were dismissed; yett in regard to theire ill carriage in the management of that affaire concerning a woman to be whipt for reporting said Betty was with child, when soe it afterward appeered to be really soe. the Court therefore order that the two Indian squaes, that were appointed to search the said Betty, affeirming that she was not with child, wherby Sames wife was whipt for the report aforsaid, shall pay, each of them ten shillings in good current pay to the said Sames squaw; and the said Betty to pay to her the sume of twenty shillings in good pay; and each of the three, viz: Awashunkes, Betty, and Peter, twenty shillings a peece towards the charge of theire bringing and imprisonment; and the said Betty to be whipt by the Indians at Saconett, for her fornication; and the Indians there to do what they can to find out any further groundes of suspition of said suspected murder, and if there appeer further just groundes of such a fact comitted by any of them, them to ecceure and send to the English authoritie, to be dealt with all according to law. (Ply. Col. Rec. Vol. VI. Page 113.)

At a General Court held at Plymouth, March 5, 1684, this order was passed:

Att this Court an Indian squa, named Betty, was indited for killing her husband, named Great Harry, with a stone: att the first, being ex-

amined by the honored Mr. John Walley, shee denied it, but afterwards owned the fact, but said shee did not intend to kill him, but by throwing of a stone at a bottle of liquore and missing the bottle, shee hitt the said Indian, her husband, on the side of his head, whereof hee died. The case being put to the grand jury, they brought in billa very. This being referred to the petty jury, they found the said Bettey, Indian squa. for the said fact, guilty of homicide by misadventure." (Ply. Col. Rec. Vol. VI. Page 153.)

APPENDIX B.

[Page 32.]

The account of this journey in Mourt's Relation, probably written by Winslow himself, is in these words :

"It seemed good to the Company for many considerations to send some amongst them to Massasoyt, the greatest Commander amongst the Savages, bordering about us; partly to know where to find them, if occasion served, as also to see their strength, discover the country, prevent abuses in their disorderly coming unto us, make satisfaction for some conceived injuries to be done on our parts, and to contine the league of Peace and Friendship between them and us. For these, and the like ends it pleased the Governour to make choice of Steven Hopkins & Edward Winsloe to goe unto him and having a fit opportunite, by reason of a Savage called Tisquantum (that could speak English) comming unto us; with all expedition provided a Horse-mans coat, of red cotton, and laced with a slight lace for a present, that both they and their message might be the more acceptable amongst them. The message was as followeth: That forasmuch as his subjects came often and without feare, upon all occasions amongst us, so wee were now come unto him, and in witness of the love and good will the English beare unto him; the Governour hath sent him a coat, desiring that the Peace and Amitie that was between them and us might be continued, not that we feared them, but because we intended not to injure any desiring to live peaceably: and as with all men so especially with them our nearest neighbours. Bnt whereas his people came very often, and very many together unto us, bringing for the most part their wives and children with them they were wellcome; yet we being but strangers as yet at Patuxet, alias New Plimmouth, and not knowing how our Come might prosper, we could no longer give them such entertainment as we had done, and as we desired still to doe, yet if he would be pleased to come himselfe, or any special friend of his desired to see us, comming from

him they would be wellesome; and to the end we might know them from others, our Governour had sent him a copper Chayne, desiring if any messenger should come from him to us, we might know it by bringing it with him, and hearken and give credit to his message accordingly. Also requesting him that such as have skins, should bring them to us, and that he would hinder the multitude from oppressing us with them, and whereas at our first arrival at Paomet (called by us Cape Cod) we found there Corne buried in the ground, and finding no inhabitants but some graves of dead new buried, took the Corne, resolving if ever we could heare of any that had right thereunto, to make satisfaction to the full for it, yet since we understand the owners thereof were fled for feare of us, our desire was either to pay them with the like quantitie of Corne, English meale, or any other Commodities we had to pleasure them withall; requesting him that some one of his men might signifie so much unto them, and we would content him for his paines. And last of all our Governour requested one favor of him, which was that he would exchange some of their Corne for feede with us, that we might make tryall which best agreed with the soyle where we live.

With these presents and message we set forward the tenth June, about 9 a clocke in the Morning, our guide resolving that night to rest at Namaschet, a Towne under Massasoyt, and conceived by us to be very neere, because the Inhabitants flocked so thicke upon every slight occasion amongst us; but wee found it to bee some fifteen English myles. On the way we found some ten or twelve men women and children, which had pestered us, till wee were wearie of them, perceiving that (as the manner of them all is) where victuall is easliest to be got, there they live, especially in the summer; by reason whereof our Bay affording many Lobsters, they resort every spring tide thither: & now returned with us to Namaschet. Thither we came about 3 a clocke after noone, the Inhabitants entertaining us with joy, in the best manner they could, giving us a kind of bread called by them Maizium, and the spawn of Shads, which then they got in abundance, in so much as they gave us spoones to eate them, with these they boyled mustie Acorns, but of the Shads we eate heartily. After this they desired one of our men to shoote at a Crow, complaining what damage they sustained in their Corne by them, who shooting some fourscore off and killing, they much admired it, as other shots on other occasions. After this Tisquantum told us wee should hardly in one day reach Pakanokick, moving us to goe some 8 myles further, where we should finde more store and better victuals than there. Being willing to hasten our journey we went, and came thither at Sunne setting, where we found many of the Namascheneks (they so calling the men of Namaschet) fishing uppon a Ware which they had made on a River which belonged to them, where they caught abundance of Basse. These welcomed us also, gave us of their

fish, and we them of our victuals, not doubting but we should have enough where ere we came. There we lodged in the open fields; for houses they had none, though they spent the most of the Summer there. The head of this River is reported to bee not farre from the place of our abode, upon it are, and have been many Townes, it being a good length. The ground is very good on both sides, it being for the most part cleered: Thousands of men have lived there, which dyed in a great plague not long since: and pitty it was and is to see so many goodly fields & so well seated, without men to dress and manure the same. Upon this River dwelleth Massasoyt: It commeth into the Sea at the Narrohiganset Bay, where the French men so much use. A shipp may go many myles up it, as the Salvages report and a shallop to the head of it: but so farre as wee saw wee are sure a shallop may.

But to returne to our journey: The next morning wee brake our fast, tooke our leave and departed, being then accompanied with some sixe Salvages, having gone about six myles by the River side, at a knowne shole place, it beeing low water, they spake to us to put off our breeches, for we must wade thorow. Heere let me not forget the vallour and courage of some of the Salvages, on the opposite side of the River, for there were remaining alive only 2 men. both aged, especially the one being above threescore; These two espying a company of men entering the River ran very swiftly & low in the grasse to meet us at the banck, where with shrill voyces and great courage standing charged upon us with their bowes, they demanded what we were, supposing us to be enemies, and thinking to take advantage on us in the water; but seeing we were friends they weleomed us with such foode as they had, and we bestowed a small bracelet of Beades on them. Thus farre we are sure the tide ebbs and flows.

Having here againe refreshed ourselves, we proceeded in our journey, the weather being very hote for travel, yet the country so well watered that a man could searee be drie, but he should have a spring at hand to coole his thirst, beside small Rivers in abundance; but the Salvages will not willingly drinke, but at a Spring head. When wee came to any small Brooke where no bridge was, two of them desired to carry us through of their owne aecorde also fearing we were or would bee wearie, offered to carry our peeeces, also if we would lay off any of our clothes, we should have them carried; and as the one of them had found more speciall kindnesse from one of the Messengers, and the other Salvage from the other so they shewed their thankfulness accordingly in affording us all helpe and furtherance in the journey.

As we passed along wee observed that there were few places by the River, but had beene inhabited, by reason whereof much ground was cleare, save of weeds which grew higher than our heads. There is much good Timber both Oake, Walnut-tree, Firre, Beech and exceeding great

Chestnut-trees. The country in respect of the lying of it, is both Champanie and billy, like many places in England. In some places its very rockie both above ground and in it: And though the country bee wilde and over-growne with woods, yet the trees stand not thicke, but a man may well ride a horse amongst them.

Passing on at length, one of the company, an Indian, espied a man, and told the rest of it, we asked them if they feared any, they told us if they were Narrohigganset men they would not trust them, whereat, we called for our peeces and bid them not to feare: for though they were twenty, we two alone would not care for them: but they hayling him, he proved a friend, and had onely two women with him: their baskets were empty, but they fetched water in their bottles, so that we dranke with them and departed. After we met another man with two women, which had beene at Randevow by the salt water, and their baskets were full of roasted Crab fishes, and other dried shell fish, of which they gave us, and we eate and dranke with them: and gave each of the women a string of Beades and departed.

After we came to a Towne of Massasoyts, where we eat Oysters and other fish. From thence we went to Packanokick."

Although this account says they set forward on the tenth of June, &c., other writers, such as Bradford's "History of Plymouth Plantations" and Morton's "New England Memorial," p. 69, give July 2, as the day of departure. Mourts Relation by Prince, p. 106 and 107, says "Tuesday July 3d." June 10, 1621 was Sunday, and it is improbable that they started on such a journey on the Lord's day.

APPENDIX C.

[Page 33.]

Among the notes of the town, showing the payment to the Indians, is this:

March 11, 1642. Imprimis. Whereas there was a rate of two shillings for an acre laid upon the inhabitants' home grounds, for the payment of the purchase of the lands of the township to the Indians, and other persons being received since for inhabitants, were not rated thereunto.

It is therefore ordered that the said latter inhabitants, or others that shall hereafter be received for inhabitants, shall pay for their house lots

that shall be granted unto them by the town, the said proportion of two shillings for an acre, and the said money to be kept for a public stock for such used as shall be requisite for the use of the plantation.

APPENDIX D.

(Page 33.)

There seems to be much uncertainty about the names of the first purchasers.

The list given in Baylies' "Old Colony Memoirs," Vol. I. page 286, with the shares of each, is as follows :

Henry Uxley,	8.	John Bryant,	6.
✓ Richard Williams,	12.	Anthony Slocum,	8.
Joseph Wilson,	8.	John Gengille,	8.
Benjamin Wilson,	8.	Francis Streete,	8.
William Coy,	8.	Hezekiah Hoar,	8.
George Hall,	12.	Walter Dean,	12.
David Corwirthy,	12.	John Dean,	12.
Mr. Wm. Poole,	12.	John Strong,	12.
George Macy,	8.	Henry Andrews,	12.
William Harvy,	8.	Thomas Cooke,	6.
Richard Paull,	6.	John Smith,	12.
Richard Smith,	12.	Mr. Thomas Farwell,	12.
✓ Mr. John Gilbert,	12.	Edward Case,	8.
Wm. Phillips,	8.	John Kingsley,	12.
Wm. Hailstone,	8.	Hugh Rosseter,	8.
Wm. Parker,	12.	John Gilbert,	12.
John Parker,	8.	Thomas Gilbert,	12.
✓ John Richmond,	6.	Robert Hobell,	6.
Wm. Holloway,	12.	Richard Burt,	8.
The widow Randall,	6.	John Crossman,	6.
Francis Doty,	12.	John Luther,	6.
Wm. Dunn,	8.	John Drake,	12.
Wm. Scadding,	12.	Mr. John Brown,	—

This list contains only forty-six names, while the list found on the Proprietor's Records is as follows :

Henry Uxley.	John Gengille.
Richard Williams.	Francis Streete.
Joseph Willson.	Hugh Rosseter.

Benjamin Willson.	John Gilbert.
William Coy (or Toy,*)	Thomas Gilbert.
George Halle.	Robert Hobell.
Daved Cerwithy.	Richard Burt.
Mr. William Poole.	John Greenman.
George Masy.	John Luthur.
William Harvy.	John Drake.
Hezekiah Hore.	Mr. John ——(Illegible.)
Walter Deane.	Clement Maxfield.
John Deane.	Edward Rue.
John Stronge.	Thomas Harvy.
William Dunne.	William Hedges.
William Seaddinge.	William ——(Illegible.)
John Bryant.	
Anthony Sloeum.	Aron Knap.
	John Gollap.
Thomas Joanes.	John Kingslo.
Thomas Linkon, junior.	Richard Paull.
Thomas Linkon, senior.	Richard Smith.
Joseph Gilbert.	Mr. John Gilbert.
Giles Gilbert.	William Phillips.
Robert Crosman.	William Hailestone.
Robert Thornton.	William Parker.
Henry Andrews.	John Parker.
Thomas Cooke.	John Richman.
John Smith.	William Holloway.
Mr. Thomas farwell.	The widdo Randall.
Edward Casee.	—————(Illegible.)

This list includes *szzy* names, but it is not certain that even this is perfect, for in a memorandum book, now in the possession of Edgar H. Reed, Esq., of Taunton, believed to be in the handwriting of Brig. James Williams is found this record: "Richard Williams was one of the *eighty* purchasers of the tract of land, being called the "Eight Mile Square," and received the name of Taunton at the time of its incorporation."

DIVISION OF LANDS.

What ever may have been the exact number of the "first purchasers," so called, the division of the land among them, and those

*NOTE. This name is usually printed "Coy" but the first letter is quite like the other "Ts" in the records.

who afterwards became proprietors, gave rise to much consideration and discussion in the town. Apparently the first purchasers took possession of a lot of land for a "home lot" of more or less extent, which was to be charged to them, as it were by way of an advancement, in the final and complete division of the whole territory among them, which did not take place for many years after the first settlement. For we read that in 1641, when the General Court granted to the first seven freemen forty acres each for their very valuable services, they declared that this was "in addition to their proportion of lands in other places, as the other inhabitants have, when the said lands shall come to be divided hereafter." (2 Ply. Col. Rec. p. 18.)

We append the action of the town upon this subject of division, so far as it can now, in the loss of our public records be satisfactorily ascertained.

Nov. 28, 1653. At an orderly town-meeting warned by the constable it is acted and voted that there shall be a general division of land to every inch, and to whom rights of division shall belong.

2d, It is agreed that the rule for dividing of land shall be by lots, heads and estates, according to the last rate made, which was a rate of eight pounds made for public charges for the country, charged upon every inhabitant by the raters that made that rate, and in the division three acres to be laid to each head, and three acres to every shilling that is charged in that rate, contained in this order, and three acres to the house or home lot, and those that are single men to be looked upon as two heads. [This said agreement was changed February 20, 1654, to be the one-half of the proportion in the division.]

It is voted and granted that such as possess the lands of those that removed from the plantation, or have been received since, shall have their divisions that doth belong to their lots only, their persons and estates being departed hence, which said division to a six acre lot, appertains two acres and a half, and twenty-six pole.

It is agreed concerning other inhabitants that have not had division shall have (right) to future divisions in the lands yet undivided, provided they pay their twelve shillings apiece to public use, as former inhabitants have done, according to town agreement in that case.

Dec. 28, 1659. The names of those inhabitants within the Township of Taunton, who are to have their division of land now agreed upon, Dec. 28, 1659, whose proportion is to be according to the rate here following, together with the quantity of land, lots, and heads, at two acres to the head, two acres to the shilling, and two acres to the lot,

	The rate.		(The lots are alike.)		
	£	s.	d.	Heads.	Acres.
Msris Winnifred Gilbert,	1	10	6	3	
James Walker,	1	5	7	8	96
John Tisdill,	1	10	10	9	82
Richard Burt,		18	2	4	46
James Burt,		12		6	38
Francis Smith,	1	7	4	6	61
Msris Jane Gilbert,		9	0	7	55
Francis Street,		6	7	5	25
John Briant,		6	9	2	19
Christopher Thrasher,		5	2	7	26
John Hathaway,		10	7	7	37
Jonah Austin, Sr.		19	11	12	46
William Parker,		15	3	2	36
James Phillips,		13	4	2	31
Peter Pitts,	1	00	7	6	55
William Haylston		5	4	2	17
Aaron Knap,		7	9	2	32
Thomas Lincoln, Jr.		14	8	6	43
Edward Bobbit,		10	8	4	29
James Wiatt,	1	8	11	2	64
George Macey,		18	3	7	52
William Witherell,		7	10	5	28
William Harvy,		14	00	7	44
Thomas Lincoln, Sr.	2	00	3	6	94
Capt. Poole,	1	2	3	8	62
John Macomber,		7	00	4	24
Edward Rew,		7	00	2	20
Joseph Wilbore,		14	7	3	37
Samuel Howard,		4	4	0	9
Thomas Caswell,		11	3	9	42
Widow Woody,		5	7	2	17
Shadrach Wilbore,		12	6	3	33
Robert Crossman,		9	8	7	33
John Cobb,		12	00	2	30
Henry Andrews,		18	3	3	44
John Deane,	1	8	10	8	76
Walter Deane,		13	1	8	44
Hezekiah Hoar,		12	1	5	36
Anthony Sloen,		19	4	6	53
George Hall,	1	15	3	7	86
Richard Williams,	1	13	6	10	91
Thomas Jones,		4	3	3	16

	The rate.			(The lots are alike.)	
	£	s.	d.	Heads.	Aeres.
Robert Thornton.		3	10	0	10
William Shepard,		5	00	10	32
James Leonard,		18	00	10	58
Nathaniel Woodward,		2	00	0	6
Timothy Holloway.	—	—	—	—	—

Jan. 5, 1659. It was agreed by a free vote of the town that all orphans or fatherless children shall have their rights in all divisions of lands which are due unto them according to proportion.

Dec. 9, 1662. Voted that all lands that are yet undivided belonging to the town shall for future time be divided by way of purchase. Former act of dividing lands by heads and estates canceled.

In 1662, some complaint was made to the General Court about the method pursued of dividing the lands in Taunton, which produced the following order:

Att this Court, this following order was directed to the towne of Taunton:—Vpon the complaint of some of the inhabitants of Taunton that some there haue gone about to alter the auncient way of distribution of lands in that towne formerly settled and long practised, wherby, besides many other inconveniencies that doth arise therby, some Indians that by the leause of the towne had libertie to plant corne in the remote ptes of the townshipe are disturbed in the improuement of the said lands, to theire great impouerishing by such psons theire taking vp such great quantities of land, which is ill resented by vs: wee doe therefore require them to desist from any such practice as that which we fear may create much trouble and inconveniencye, vntill wee haue further inquired into the same. (Ply. Col. Rec. Vol. IV. Page 34.)

Jan. 10, 1669. It is voted and agreed upon by the town, and these ten men following are chosen to draw a list of the purchasers or free inhabitants here in town as followeth: James Walker, William Harvey, Richard Williams, Walter Dean, Lient. Macy, Ensign Leonard, Aron Knap, John Hall, Joseph Wilbore, John Richmond.

2d, That an exact list be taken of the names of all such inhabitants amongst us that have rights in divisions of lands, and also that a list be taken of all the rest of the inhabitants, to the intent that we may know who are by Court order allowed to vote in to a town-meeting, and who not.

3d, And in the beginning of each town-meeting the list of all the free inhabitants or purchasers shall be called over, and if sixteen of them with the clerk do appear at the time and place appointed, it shall be lawful for them to proceed to the enacting of such things as for which the town-meeting was appointed, but not to distribute our lands although it be due, except sixteen of the purchasers appear.

Jan. 8, 1674. It is voted and agreed by the town that the committee chosen formerly, the 10th. January, 1669, them or the major part of them have full power to draw up a list of the purchasers or proprietors of this town, and how lands shall be settled and confirmed to the purchasers or proprietors so that the town may be freed from future damage, and also no man barred of his just right, and whatsoever this committee, or the major part of them, shall agree upon or do in or about the premises shall stand firm and good.

In Jan. 21, 1678, another Committee of seven, including five of the last named Committee were appointed with similar power and duties, and also to ratify their supposed lost grants and town orders. This Committee consisted of William Harvey, Walter Deane, Samuel Smith, John Richmond, James Walker, Thomas Leonard & William Witherell. By the vote creating them they were to report in "a year's time after the date hereof." But their report not being ready in that time, the town voted, on Dec. 1, 1679, to give them until the last day of May, 1680, which was then made as follows:

"To our beloved brethren and neighbors, the Inhabitants of the town of Taunton, in the government of New Plymouth;

"The committee chosen by the said town for to ratify town orders and grants, and to bring them into a formal body so that they may stand in force, and also to determine how lands shall be recorded that they may be confirmed, both to ourselves and to our posterity.

"The committee wisheth grace, mercy, and peace in our Lord Jesus Christ.

"Amongst the many mercies that we enjoy here in this wilderness this ought to be accounted none of the least that we enjoy such rulers chosen from amongst ourselves (in the Commonwealth) and live under such Government, by means wherof, we as well as the rest of the towns in this Government, enjoy liberty and power to make such town orders from time to time as we shall find needful for the ordering and managing our prudential affairs and the maintaining the worship of God amongst us. Provided that no town order do infringe or be repugnant to any order of our Government, and considering that God is a God of order and not of confusion, and that he hath in some measure put us into a capacity to observe and be guided by good and wholesome orders, it hath been looked upon as great pity and neglect that our town orders have not before now been brought into a formal body, distinct from the records of our lands, which our town having well considered and chosen us to do such a needful work. Although we are sensible of our own weakness and of the many difficulties in the work, yet considering the great necessity that something of this nature ought to be done and that the records of our lands may not lie in a confused manner, we have

through much difficulty revised, collected, and formed this following body of town orders, reduced into chapters, as may be seen in this book. let the reader take notice, that first after this epistle he hath our orders from the town inserted, and next after that some instructions for those that have lands to be recorded, and then the preface that is before the list of purchasers or proprietors, and then the said list and nextly there followeth the several chapters of town orders. It hath been our endeavor to compose and form the several orders in this book as they may most conduce to general utility and profit, yet several of these orders, intended for the present convenience, may probably be hereafter altered, and as need requireth other orders added, suitable to such alternate changes as is usual in affairs. Respecting town and commonwealth affairs, probably it may be that weakness may appear in what we here present to your view, for want of such able instruments as others are furnished withall; however, our desires are that you will be pleased to accept of what we, according to the utmost of our powers, have done. Endeavouring to promote the general good of this place, and that you would seriously consider that if such a work as this is of so great importance to us at such a time as this is should be retarded and hindered, what would be the event thereof. Therefore, hoping there will be comfortable concurrence and closure with us in this work considering we aim at the peace and tranquillity both of the present and rising generations, we rest your friends and neighbors.

“WALTER DEANE.

“JAMES WALKER.

“THOMAS LEONARD.

“JOHN RICHMOND.

“WILLIAM WITHERELL.”

“At the Court of General Sessions of the Peace held at Bristol for the County of Bristol on the second Tuesday in October in the year 1702. Thomas Leonard and John Richmond, two of the committee whose names are set to the above written epistle, made oath in said court that the above written epistle and what said epistle doth refer the reader unto, and all contained in the first thirteen chapters in this book (which chapters do end in the twenty sixth page) was all entered in this book by order of said committee before the twenty-fifth day of May in the year sixteen hundred and eighty (except something in the second chapter and something in the sixth chapter both which may plainly appear by their dates to have been entered since said twenty-fifth of May) and on said twenty-fifth of May sixteen hundred and eighty this above written epistle and that was entered before as above said, was read to the town in a public town-meeting in Taunton, and the town then de-

clared by vote their acceptance of what said committee had done as above which is agreeable to the said town's vote which is entered in the third page in this book.

"Sworn in Court October 14, 1702.

"Attest JOHN CARY, *Clerk.*"

At the same town meeting, May 25, 1680, the original committed of ten, appointed Jan. 10, 1669, or a major part of them make their report as follows :

Whereas, by the providence of God in the year 1638 and the year 1639, it pleased God to bring the most part of the first purchasers of Taunton over the great ocean into this wilderness from our dear & native land, and after some small time here we found this place, called by the natives the land Cohannet, in the Colony of New Plymouth, and of the Court of said Colony we obtained grants of tracts of land for a plantation or township as by the records of said Court it may and doth appear, and then we also made purchase and bought the said tracts of land for our money of the right proprietors and owners, the Indians' or Prince of that part of the country, as by deed under their hands it may appear, and in honor and love to our dear and native country, we called this place Taunton, and owning it a great mercy of God to bring us to this place, and settling of us, on lands of our own, bought with our money in peace, in the midst of the heathen, for a possession for ourselves, and for our posterity after us, do mutually agree and fully determine as an undeniable order of this town, without any evasion whatsoever, that all lands that is or shall be granted to any person or persons, whether under the denomination of a purchaser or free inhabitant orderly received into this town, shall be to the grantees and their heirs and assigns forever, a good perfect estate of inheritance in fee simple, and that all titles of our lands within this township, so to stand in the tenure to the grantees, and so to descend to their survivors as aforesaid.

Whereas, it is the expectation of this town, that we, the said committee, should do something that our lands may be confirmed both to ourselves and to our posterity, the town having empowered us so to do, we do therefore agree and determine in the behalf of the town, that all persons enjoying lands, either upland or swamp or meadow within this township, when they would record such land, they shall bring a fair copy of all such lands, both upland, meadow and swamp into the Selectmen's meeting, mentioning in the copy the bounds or quantity or both of each parcel, and how they possess it, whether by purchase from particular persons, or by gift or grant from the town, and if by grant from the town, that they mention what purchase right and what division, if it may be, mentioning also what they have sold and to whom, and then if

the selectmen, or the major part of them, do approve of the copy and set their hands thereunto, the town clerk shall record all such lands in the town book of records, over-writing the record thereof thus as followeth:—The records of the land both uplands, meadow lands, and swamp lands of such a person, naming of him, both of what was granted him by the town and what he bought of particular persons, and also what he hath sold, all and every parcel thereof, to be held to the grantee his heirs, successors and assigns forever according to the tenor of our Charter or Patent.

THE PREFACE TO THE LIST OF PURCHASERS OR PROPRIETORS.

Whereas the General Court at Plymouth, in July the 10th. 1669. made an act for quieting men's estates, avoiding suits at law, as may appear in the printed law book, chap. 10, page 35: and whereas it is enacted by the Court that all grants of lands shall be held to the grantees, their heirs, successors & assigns forever according to the most free tenor of East Greenwich in the County of Kent, in the Realm of England, granted to us in our Charter or Patent, and our inhabitants to defend according to the tenor thereof as appears chap. 10, page 44.

And whereas, the Court formerly gave power to seven men of the ancient inhabitants of this town to receive inhabitants and to dispose of lands to them for the better carrying on of the public affairs and maintaining the worship of God amongst us, but several of those persons so received into this town. did afterwards leave and forsake the town, whereupon it was the practice of the town to divide lands (viz. such lands as such persons which left the town should have had, if they had not left their town nor alienated their rights) to such inhabitants as enjoy the purchase lots (so called) of those that left the town, except the purchase lot and the purchase rights to divisions were separated, and then, in such case, the town did divide lands to those that did hold the purchase rights to divisions, but the town not having kept any exact list of those admitted to be purchasers, nor any exact record of their manner of settling lands upon persons, therefore, for the preventing of future trouble and inconveniences the town chose a committee, Jan. 10, 1669, to draw a list of the purchasers, or free inhabitants here in town: the town likewise voted and agreed, Jan. 10, 1674, that the same committee shall have full power (or the major part of them) to draw up a list of the purchasers or the proprietors of this town, and how lands shall be settled and confirmed to the purchasers or proprietors, so that the town may be freed from future damage and also no man barred of his just right, and whatsoever this committee, or the major part of them shall agree upon or do, in or about the premises, shall stand firm and good; we, therefore, whose names are under written, being the major part of said committee, do agree and conclude that lands shall be

recorded unto, confirmed and settled upon such persons, unto whom the town hath already granted or divided lands by virtue of their enjoying either purchase lots or purchase rights to divisions, whose names are on the list which we have drawn, notwithstanding it is not hereby intended to deprive any person, (that removed hence) of his rights, but he shall have free liberty to demand and recover (according to the aforementioned law) his rights, if any, of any such person or persons to whom the town divided lands, by virtue of his possessing the purchase lot or purchase rights of any such ancient inhabitant, who was formerly accepted under the motion of a purchaser.

JAMES WALKER,	JOSEPH WILBORE.
JOHN RICHMOND,	JOHN HALL.
THOMAS LEONARD,	RICHARD WILLIAMS.
WALTER DEAN.	

This 25th of May 1680. The town hath voted that they accept of what the committee hath done: by the committee is understood those that did this day present what they had caused to be entered on the town book of Town Orders, concerning settling of our lands and town orders.

A list of the names of the present purchasers or proprietors of the Town of Taunton unto whom the town hath already granted or divided lands by virtue of their enjoying either purchase lots or purchase rights to divisions of land as followeth:

Richard Williams on his own rights, & on that which was Henry Uxley's, & on that which was Anthony Slocum's and that which was John Gingil's.

John Hall and Samuel Hall on their two rights which were Joseph Wilson's and Benjamin Wilson's.

Joseph Hall on the rights that was his father's.

Captain William Poole's heirs on his rights.

Lieutenant George Macey on his own rights and on that which was Mr. Bishop's.

William Harvey on his own rights.

Edward Rew on the rights that was William Coy's.

Hezekiah Hoar on his own rights.

Walter Dean on his own rights.

John Dean on his father's rights.

Henry Andrews on his father's rights.

Increase Robinson on the rights that was Thomas Cook's.

John Cobb on the rights that was John Smith's.

Thomas Farwell's heirs on his rights.

Shadrach Wilbore on the rights that was Edward Case's.

Thomas Caswell on the rights that was John Kingslow's.

James Leonard, Junior, on the rights that was Richard Paul's.

Joseph Wilbore on the rights that was Richard Smith's.

John Smith, Senior, on *half the* rights that was Mr. John Gilbert's.

James Phillips on the rights that was his father's.

John Richmond on the rights that was his father's & on the rights that was Mr. Francis Doubtyes (Doughty.)

Jonah Austin, Senior, on the right that was William Holloway's.

Jonah Austin, Junior, on the *half purchase rights* of the widow Randil's.

William Witherell on his own rights, & that which was Mr. Dunn's.

John Bryant on the rights which was his father's & that which was William Scadding's.

Mary Streete on the rights that was her father's.

Joseph Willis on the rights that was Hugh Rossiter's.

Eleazer Gilbert on the rights of John Gilbert.

Thomas Gilbert on the rights that was his father's.

Malachi Holloway on the rights that was Richard Hart's.

Francis Smith on the rights that was Oliver Purchase's.

Samuel Smith on the rights that was Jacob Wilson's

James Burt on the rights that was his father's.

Richard Burt on the rights that was his father's.

James Tisdil on the rights that was David Greenman's.

John Tisdil, senior, on his own rights.

John Tisdil, Junior, on the rights that was Mr. Drake's.

James Walker, senior, on his own rights, & on that which was Mr. John Brown's, & on the rights that was John Luther's.

Mr. John Poole on the rights that was Miss Elizabeth Poole's.

James Wiat's heirs on his rights.

Thomas Harvey, Junior, on his father's rights.

To John Strong's rights we find several claimers.

Christopher Thrasher on his own rights.

William Shepard's heirs on his rights.

John Hathaway on the rights that was his father's.

Peter Pitts on the rights that was Richard Stasie's and on the rights that was William Parker's.

Thomas Cogan's heirs on his rights.

John Macomber, Senior, on his own rights.

Israel Dean on the rights that was Clement Maxfield's.

Richard Stasie on the rights that was Edward Rew's.

John Hodges on the rights that was his father's.

William Evans his heirs on his rights.

Aaron Knap's heirs on his rights.

Henry Hodges on the rights that was John Gollup's.

Richard Godfree, senior, *on half* the purchase rights that was Thomas Joan's.

Thomas Lincoln, senior, on his own rights.

Thomas Lincoln, Junior, on his own rights.

George Watson on the rights that was Giles Gilbert's.

Giles Gilbert on the rights that was Joseph Gilbert's.

Robert Crossman on his own rights.

Robert Thornton on his own rights.

John Turner on his own rights.

James Leonard, senior, on his own rights.

Mr. John Paine on the rights that was Ralph Russell's.

Thomas Leonard on the rights that was Henry Leonards & on half the purchase rights that was Thomas Jones'.

Edward Bobbitt on his own rights.

Samuel Holloway on his own rights.

Jonathan Briggs on the rights that was Benjamin Dunham's.

Nicholas White, senior, on the rights that was David Curwithies and on the rights that was Giles Slocum's.

John Parker's heirs on his own rights.

Mr. George Shove on his own rights.

William Haylston on his own rights.

Mr. William Brenton on the rights that was Mr. Nicholas Street's.

These purchasers or proprietors, fore-mentioned, are hereby and by virtue hereof entitled and interested only unto the first purchase of the township of Taunton and not unto any later purchase.

This list was made and agreed upon and concluded and confirmed by us whose names are underwritten, being the major part of the committee chosen by the town for that end. Dated May 14, 1678.

RICHARD WILLIAMS,

JOHN RICHMOND,

JAMES WALKER,

JOHN HALL,

WALTER DEAN,

JOSEPH WILBORE.

THOMAS LEONARD.

APPENDIX E.

(Page 34.)

MISS POOLE'S LAND.

So far as we now know Miss Poole's title to land in Taunton arose in this way:

On the 3d of March 1639, the General Court at Plymouth passed an order "that they will see Mr. Hooke, Mr. Streete, and Mrs. Poole shall have competent meddow & uplands, for farmes layd forth for them about May next, by Captaine Standish and such others with him as shall be especially assigned thereunto." (1 Ply. Col. Rec. p. 143.)

In pursuance of that order Miles Standish and John Brown, probably in May following, i. e. 1640, "layd forth" her lands and made report thereof to the Proprietors as follows: (Prop. Rec. Vol. I. p. 16.)

"Those lands which, by order of the Court, were, by Miles Standish and John Brown, assistants in the Government of Plymouth, appointed to be laid out unto Mrs. Elizabeth Pool, of Taunton, as followeth:

Imprimis. At her farm at Littleworth, forty acres of meadow, being at the end next unto her house there, lying at that end between the South and South west and so northerly.

Item. Fifty acres of such upland which she will make choice of thereabouts.

Item. Fifty acres of upland lying near the two mile brook, joining to the marsh on the south side thereof, as also half of the same marsh for quantity and quality.

Item. An hundred acres of upland lying on the other side of the great river of Taunton.

Item. For her home lot fifteen acres to the next unto Mr. Hooke's house, as also to the mill six acres.

Item. That these lands be measured out in a convenient time, by the freemen or some of them and by a man well experienced in measuring of grounds.

Miles Standish.
John Brown."

Hon. Henry Williams, in a valuable article read before the Old Colony Historical Society, (Coll. No. 2, p. 76.) thus comments on this report:—

"From the report it appears that Miss Pool had a farm with a house on it, at Littleworth, without definite bounds or a determinate quantity of land. The commissioners first set off forty acres of meadow, and fifty acres of upland "which she will make choice of thereabouts." This farm seems to have been the only land of which she had possession among the several tracts then set off to her.

The locality called Littleworth was a tract of land embracing a number of large farms situated in the easterly part of Taunton, adjoining the present town of Lakeville, extending to the Middleborough line adjoining Taunton. The house on Miss Pool's farm was about a mile from Myrick's station on the road formerly called "the Rhode Island Path."

leading from Plymouth to Rhode Island. There is a tradition that she formerly lived there, but it may have arisen from the fact that she owned a house there.

The second tract of land set off to her is described as "near the two mile brook." This shows it was situated near the Anchor Forge, now within the limits of Raynham.

The third tract was an hundred acres described as "on the other side of the great river of Taunton." This is very indefinite, and not readily located without reference to subsequent deeds. It was near Neck of Land, so-called.

"For her home lot," they set off twenty one acres on the southerly side of what is now Main and a portion of Summer streets, extending from Mr. Hooke's house, near that now occupied by James H. Anthony, Esq., to the mill situated on the westerly side of Mill River, adjoining what is now Cohannet street. On this "home lot" there were then no buildings. A house was subsequently built thereon in which Miss Pool lived with her brother till 1653.—"

Mr. Williams also appends to his article a copy of the will of Miss Poole, giving her real estate chiefly to her nephew John Pole, which we annex hereto.

THE LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT OF MRS. ELIZABETH POOLE, exhibited before the Court held at Plymouth the sixt of June 1656, on the oaths of Lieutenant James Wiate and Richard Williams, and by the said Court ordered to bee recorded, the seventeenth day of the 3d month, 1654,—one thousand six hundred and fifty four.

In the name of God, Amen. I, Elizabeth Pole of Taunton, in Colonie of New Plymouth, in New England of the age of sixty and five, or thereabouts, being sick and weake under the visitation of the Lord, yett being of perfect memory and understanding, and willing to set my house in order according to the direction and message of the Lord unto Hezekiah, when he was sick, that I might leave mine affairs soe as might be peaceable and comfortable to my friends remaining behind mee. I therefore commit my body to the grave, according to the appointment of God, whoe took mee from the dust, and saith wee shall return unto the dust, there to remain until the resurrection, and my soul into the hands of God, my Heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, who is to me all in all, and hath, as I believe, and am persuaded through the mercy of God, reconciled me unto God, and taken away the guiltiness of sin and fear of death, which would otherwise have been heavy to bear, and makes me willing to leave the world, and desire to be dissolved, and to bee with Christ which is best of all: and as for that portion of worldly goods, which the Lord of his mercy hath yett continued unto mee, I give and bequeath as followeth:—

Imprimis:—I give and bequeath unto my brother, Capt. William Pole, now living and dwelling in Taunton, my dwelling house which I built and have dwelt in until a little time past, wherein my brother now dwelleth, with my orchard and home ground thereunto appertaining, as also my forty acres of meadowing at Little Worth, as alsoe my neck of land so called, lying on the further side of the Great River, containing an hundred acres,—these I bequeath unto my brother aforesaid, and also the house wherein I now dwell, bought of Robert Thornton, and the land thereunto appertaining which I bought of him therewith as alsoe my fifty acres of land lying by the two-mile meadow so-called, and my part of meadowing in that two mile meadow, which contains the one-half of it adjoining unto my said fifty acres, with all my rights of land in divisions due to me in Taunton. I give and bequeath these all formentioned unto my brother during his lifetime, to enjoy as his own freely, to improve and enjoy for his advantage, and after his decease, I give and bequeath unto my cousin John Pole, my brother's eldest son, my house aforesaid, which I built upon my own lot, wherein my brother now dwelleth, with the orchard and all the home grounds thereunto appertaining, with my meadows at Little Worth, and my neck of land of one hundred acres, on the further side of the Great River, with all the lands and rights of divisions that thereunto appertain in Taunton, to appertain and belong to my cousin, John Pole, and his heirs after him forever, from the day of the decease of his father; and in case God shall see good to bring my cousin, John Pole, to a married estate before the decease of his father, my brother, then my will is that from the time of his contracting a marriage, he do possess and enjoy as his own freely, the house wherein I now dwell, that I bought of Robert Thornton, which my will is, that it be presently repaired and kept in good order to support it out of my stock, and by such means as I have appointed for that end, and so be kept for my cousin, John Pole, as aforesaid, with the lands thereunto appertaining by right every way, and my brother the home-lot lying adjoining to it, throughout, with my fifty acres by the two-mile meadows, and my half of that meadow to it, to be his only and freely until his father's decease, and then to surrender up his said house and lands unto his mother, to be hers to possess and enjoy during her lifetime, and after her decease to appertain unto her two younger sons, Timothy Pole and Nathaniel Pole, and my cousin John Pole, to enjoy and possess his own house and land whereof his father, my brother, had possession of, which I dwelt upon before, and forsook, I now give unto my cousin, John Pole, at my decease, one cowe, called Onely; and whereas I have left to my brother, his father, a yoke of oxen of my stock, my will is that his father make them good unto him out of his estate, at his father's decease; also I give unto my consin, John Pole, all my household stuff and goods within dore, the which I commit to the

care and keeping of my overseers, to have in their custody and care to preserve for him until he come to keep house for himself, being married, and then if the Lord continue his life, to enjoy it as his own, but if the Lord take him away by death before he be of age to marry, then my will is that my cousin Timothy Pole, his next brother, enjoy these things forementioned as my gift to him. Or if my cousin John Pole marry and die without issue, then the lands to return to my cousin Timothy Pole, only this excepting: a paelel of the land is promised to James Bell for a lot, if there be none procured for him by my brother in another place. I give to my cousen Mary Pole, one cow at my decease, and all my apparel and wearing clothes, which I commit to the keeping of my overseers for to let her have what they think may be fit for her to wear as she hath need of it, and what they think is not fit for her to have, to make sale thereof and put it into some stock that may be to her benefit. Furthermore, I give unto the Church of God at Taunton, for the furtherance of any special service thereof, one cow whichsoever the overseers shall like best to take for that end, after my decease, and improve it for that end.

I give my part in the iron works to be from my decease for the furtherance of my cousin John Pole, in leaving which I earnestly desire him to attend unto and show all due respect unto his parents, both with respect to the word of God and my last charge. And after the Lord hath brought him to age, then my said part in the iron works to be for the training up my cousin Nathaniel Pole in learning as fast as it may help that way, and afterwards when he is grown of age, I give and bequeath it to him as his own forever.

I give unto my kind and old friend sister Margery Paule widow, one yearling heifer, if it be living at my decease, and appoint my overseers to see it delivered unto her after my decease.

I appoint and make my cousin John Pole to be my sole Executor, to receive all and to pay debts and any engagements, and so commend him to the blessing of the Lord.

I appoint my kind friends Richard Williams and Walter Dean Deacons of the Church of Taunton, and Oliver Purchis to be my overseers, to whom I commit my trust and care to see this my last will be fulfilled according and as it is expressed in all the parts thereof, and herein I rest.

This signed by me,

ELIZABETH POLE.

Witnessed by

James Wiatt,
Oliver Purchis,
Richard Williams.

(Ply. Col. Rec., of Wills, Book 2, Part I, Page 24-5-6.)

Her real estate thus given to her nephew John Poole after the death of his father William, came into his possession, and in 1680 he was ordered to clear up and make apparent the true boundaries of his forty acre meadow lot, by an order, a copy of which is as follows:

At a General Court held at Plymouth, Oct. 27, 1680, it was ordered as follows:—

“ In reference vnto forty acrees of meddow formerly graunted vnto Mistris Elizabeth Poole, of Taunton, deceased, now appertaining vnto her successor, Mr. John Poole, marehant in Boston, forasmuch as the bounds of the said meddow, by reason of rubbish groune vp, can not be deseerned, which occationeth some disputes between the tenants of the said John Poole whoe improue the same and the naighbours next adjoining, whoe haue injoyed theire rights bordering thereon for the space of twenty yeers in peace, this Court doth order, that Mr. Poole be speedily informed of the puiises, and required to make the bounds of the said meddow to appeer, in order to a settlement thereof according to equity and justice, and for the prevention of future differences about it, which if neglected, the Court will see themselues necessitated to take some speedly course for the settlement thereof.” (Ply. Col. Rec. Vol. VI. Page 54.)

MR. HOOKE'S AND MR. STREET'S LAND.

The lands “ layd forth ” for Mr. Hooke and Mr. Street jointly under the above order were in the present town of Berkley, and comprising about 400 acres of upland and 30 of meadow. When Mr. Hooke moved to New Haven about 1644, he sold nearly all his interest to Mr. Street, and in 1658 when Mr. Street succeeded him in New Haven, he conveyed the same (by his attorneys, James Wyatt and George Macye,) to John Hathway, Edward Bobbett, and Timothy Holloway, all of Taunton, for 150£, as appears by this deed.

PRENCE GOV.

To all Christian People to whom the Presents shall come. James Wyatt of Taunton, in Plymouth Patent, in New England, and George Macye of the same towne, Attorneys unto Mr. Nicholas Streete, now or late Teacher of the Church of Taunton aforesaid, sendeth Greet. &c. Know yea that whereas the said Nicholas Street by his letter of Attorney, bearing date the nineteenth day of October, in the year of our Lord one thousand six hundred fifty-eight, did ordaine and constitute and in

his place and stead set and appointed the said James Wyatt and George Macey his true and lawful attorneys, for him and in his name and stead to sell and make sale of four hundred acres of upland and meadow, be there more or less lying together in Taunton aforesaid which was given by the Court of Plymouth unto Mr. William Hook and the said Mr. Nicholas Street jointly; and at the going away of the said Hook from Taunton to New Haven, all the said Hook's part, except two parcels of meadow, the one lying at Grassy Island, the other at a place called Assonet, being sold or disposed of to the said Street, and by the same letters of Attorney doth give full power and authority unto them, the said Attorneys, to enter his said lands, or into some part thereof, in the name of the whole; and to such person or persons, as by virtue of the said letters, shall purchase the same of his said Attorneys, that they his said Attorneys do in his name deliver quiet and peaceable possession and seizen according to the law, and also to remove, evict, and dispossess as they shall think fit all and every person or persons using or occupying all or any part of the said lands, and them so cleared to convert unto the use of such person or persons as shall purchase the same. Wherefore now further Know ye, that we the said James Wyatt and George Macey, in the name of the said Nicholas Street according to the power committed unto us as aforesaid, for and in consideration of one hundred and fifty pounds sterling, whereof fifty pounds in hand payed, the residue secured to be paid, have given, granted, bargained, sold enfeoffed and confirmed, and by these presents do give, grant, bargain, sell, enfeoff and confirm unto John Hathway, Edward Bobbett and Timothy Holloway, all of Taunton aforesaid, the said four hundred acres of upland and meadow lying together in Taunton aforesaid, be there more or less, the one side whereof is bounded with two marked trees standing upon the head of a cove called Smith's Cove, on the south part, the other part bounded with a place called the Iron Springs being opposite against a certain parcel of land called Mr. Gilbert's farm; on the north part one end butts upon a great River in part, and upon the meadows of Captain William Poole, Mistress Jane Farwell, and William Hailstone, in part on the west or northwest part, the other end running up into the woods, so far as will extend to four hundred acres, as aforesaid; the one moiety, or half part of which said four hundred acres the said Nicholas Street had and purchased of the said William Hook late Pastor of the said Church of Taunton when he the said Hook went from Taunton to New Haven as is aforesaid. To have and to hold the said four hundred acres of upland and meadow, be there more or less, as before butted and bounded, with all and every the appurtenances, privileges and commodities thereunto belonging or anyways appertaining unto the said John Hathway, Edward Bobbett, and Timothy Holloway, their heirs and assigns forever. To the only use and behoof of the said John Hathway, Edward

Bobbett, and Timothy Holloway, their heirs and assigns forever, without any the let, molestation or expulsion of him the said Nicholas Street, his heirs, executors or assigns, or any claiming any title, claim or interest to the same or any part thereof, from or under him them or any of them. and for warranting of the said premises the said James Wyatt and George Macey doth for themselves, their heirs Executors and Administrators, covenant and Grant, to and with the said John Hathway, Edward Bobbett, and Timothy Holloway, their heirs and assigns, by these presents. that the said premises now be and at all time and times hereafter shall be, remaine and continue and abide unto the said John Hathway, Edward Bobbett, and Timothy Holloway, their heirs and assigns freely acquitted exonerated and discharged, or otherwise from time to time and at all times hereafter, well and sufficiently saved, defended and Kept harmless off and from all and all manner of former and other bargains and sales. gifts, grants, feofments, joyntures, dower, title of dower estates, mortgages, forfeitures, seizures, judgments, extents, executions and all other acts and incumbrances whatsoever had, made, done, acknowledged and committed by the said Nicholas Street or any other person or persons claiming or having any title or interest of in or to the said demised premises or any part thereof, or any of the appurtenances thereof, by from or under him the said Nicholas Street or his assigns, or done or committed by the assent, demand or procurement of the said Nicholas Street or his assigns, or by any other person or persons whatsoever, whereby the said John Hathway, Edward Bobbett, or Timothy Holloway or any of them or the heirs or assigns of them or any of them, shall or may be lawfully evicted out of the possession or enjoyment thereof or of any part or parcel thereof as aforesaid provided the said John Hathway, Edward Bobbett and Timothy Holloway, or some or one of them, or the heirs, Executors, Administrators of them or some or one of them, shall pay or cause to be paid unto the said James Wyatt and George Macey, attorneys as aforesaid unto the said Nicholas Street, and to and for the use of him the said Nicholas Street, the sum of one hundred pounds, for the nature of pay and time and place of payment, according to the tenor of that mortgage of the premises agreed upon. To be sealed by them, the said John Hathway, Edward Bobbett, and Timothy Holloway; but if therein they shall fail and forfeit the premises in case of nonpayment the next aforesaid covenant in point of warranty to be of no force against the said Wyatt and Macey, anything in these presents, to the contrary thereof in any wise notwithstanding, and also the said James Wyatt and George Macey doth further covenant promise and grant to and with the said John Hathway, Edward Bobbett, and Timothy Holloway, that when the purchase money due for the said bargained premises is as aforesaid paid and satisfied, according to time and place of payment, and nature of pay, then they the said James Wyatt and George Macey, or one of them shall

and will deliver or cause to be delivered, all and singular such evidences and writings that they have or can procure only touching or concerning the premises severally with the said mortgage agreed to be sealed for security as aforesaid, and acknowledge satisfaction of the said debt upon the record thereof if the said mortgage shall be recorded; and lastly that when the said debt or sum is fully paid, as aforesaid, the said James Wyatt and George Macey, shall and will perform, and do or cause to be performed and done any such further act or acts as they the said James Wyatt and George Macey shall thereunto advised or required by the said John Hathway, Edward Bobbett, and Timothy Holloway, or their or any of their assigns, for a more full and perfect conveying and assuring the said bargained premises, and every part thereof unto the said John Hathway, Edward Bobbett, and Timothy Holloway their heirs and assigns.

In witness whereof the said James Wyatt and George Macey have hereunto put their hands and seals the day of In the year of our Lord one thousand six hundred fifty and eight.

signed, sealed,
and delivered in
presence of,

James Wyatt and a [seal.]
George Macey and a [seal.]

William Poole,
Walter Deane,
William Harvey.

This deed was acknowledged by James Wyatt and George Macey the 24th of June 1663.

Before me, John Aldin
Assistant.

(Ply. Rec. of Deeds, Vol. III. p. 189.

By another deed dated February 9, 1669, William Bradford, son of Gov. Bradford, confirmed the title, and in consideration of two pounds, gave a new deed of the same, as follows :

To all unto whom these presents shall come. Greeting: Whereas, the Honorable, the Council Established at Plimouth, in the County of Devon, for the planting, ruling, ordering and Governing of New England in America, by vertue and authority of Lett^{rs} Patent under the Great Seal of England from our late Soverainge Lord King James the first, bearing date at Westminister in the eighteenth year of his sd Maties Reign of England. For and in consideration that William Bradford, Esq^e and his Associates had of their own proper cost and charges planted and inhabited a Town called by the name of New Plimouth in New England as aforesd, and for their better encouragement to proceed in so pious a work especially tending to the propagation of Religion and the Great encour-

agement of trade to his Maties Realms, and Advancement to the Publick Plantation. The said Council by their Patent or Grant under their Common Seal, Signed by the Right Honourable Robert Earle, of Warwick, President of sd Council, bearing date the thirteenth day of January, in the fifth year of the reign of our late Soverainge Lord King Charles, the first Anno Dom. 1629, did give, grant, Enfeoffe, Assigne and confirme unto the said William Bradford, his heires Associates and Assigns forever, All that part of New England in America aforesaid. And Tract or Tracts of lands That lye within or between a certaine Rivulet or Runlet comonly called Coahasset, alias Conahasset towards the north, And the River comonly called Narhaganset River towards the south, and the Great Ocean towards the East, And between and within a straight line directly extending up into the Main land towards the West, from the mouth of the said River called Narhaganset River to the utmost limets or bounds of A country or Place in New England, comonly called Pocanocket Alias Sowamset, Westward, And another like straight line extending itself directly from the mouth of sd River Coahasset, alias Conahasset, towards the West so far up into the Main land westward as the ntmost limits of the sd place or country comonly called Pockanocket, alias Sowamset, do extend, And all Lands, Rivers, waters, havens, situate, lying and being or Arising within or between the said limmits and bounds, or any of them. And thereof were put into peaceable and quiet possession as in and by the sd Grant and endorsement thereon, reference thereto being had will more fully and at large appear; And whereas the said William Bradford, and his Associates, in the year of our Lord God one thousand six hundred and thirty eight, did grant unto Mr. Nicholas Street and Mr. Hooke jointly, A tract of land for a farme of four hundred aeres of upland and about thirty aeres of meadow lying together in the limets and bounds of Taunton, And at the going away of said Hooke from Taunton he sold his part of sd farm to Mr Nicholas Street, And when the said Street went from Taunton he sold the farme and foresaid land to Jonathan Hathaway sen'r Edward Bobbett sen'r and Timothy Holloway, all of Tamton, in the County of Bristol, And the said farme lyeth in the County of Bristol within his Maties territory and Dominion in New England in America, being part of the lands contained within the limits and boundaries Expressed in the aforescited Patent or Grant from the Council Established at Plimouth in the County of Devon for Planting, Ruling, ordering and governing of New England in America unto the said William Bradford, his heirs, Associates and Assigns. Now know yee, that I, William Bradford of New Plymouth, in the County of Plimouth, within his Maties Territory and Dominion of New England, Esq^e. son and Heir of the above named William Bradford, Esq^e. deceased, for and in consideration of the sum of two pounds in current money of New England to me in hand paid at and before the ensealing and delivery of these pres-

ents, well and truly paid by John Hathaway, Edward Bobbett and Samuel Holloway and William Phillips, one of the heirs of the late deceased James Phillips, which sd Samuel Holloway and James Phillips, late deceased, purchased his the said Timothy Holloway's part of said farme, which said persons and the Proprietors of said tract of land or farm aforesaid, and are ancient enjoyers and settlers and planters of the said farme for thirty years and upwards And the receipt of sd money I do hereby acknowledge And for divers other good causes and considerations me thereunto especially moving, have granted, remised, released, approved, ratified, confirmed and forever quitclaimed, and by these presents do for me and my heirs fully and absolutely graunt, remise, release, approve, ratify, confirm and forever quitclaim unto the said John Hathaway, Edward Bobbett, Samuel Holloway and William Phillips, their heirs and assigns forever, to the onely use and behoof of themselves and their heirs and assigns forever, In their full and peaceable possession and seizen now being according to their and every of them respective rights, title and interest. All and singular the right, title and interest, inheritance, use, propertie, possession, claim and demand whatsoever of me the said William Bradford of in and unto all and singular the messuages and tenements, lands, grounds, soils lying situate within the limits and bounds of sd farme, as they have been anciently stated and set forth and are now described and bounded lying on the East side of Taunton Great River bounded on the south side in part by Assonet Neck, and in part by the old line of the Town of Taunton and on the north side by a black oak marked near a spring called the Iron Spring one end butts in part upon the meadow of Captain William Peele, Mr^s Jane Farewell and William Hailstone and in part upon the Great River running along by the River side as far as Assonet Neck, and so running along by the side of said Necke until it comes to the head of a meadow called by the name of Smiths Cove to a marked tree by the side of sd Neck, and from said tree to another white oak marked at the head of sd Cove, and from said white oak to run to Taunton line northerly so that Taunton line and that line make a square at the head of said Cove, and so to run by Taunton line to Assonet way, and so to run upon a straight line a little above a pine tree new cut down, and so extends about three-quarters of a mile upon that line near John Richmond's field, and then turns the corner and so runneth down the Plain along by a Pine tree fallen down, and from thence West, and by north until it comes to said marked tree near the Iron Spring. Together with all waters, brooks, ponds, creeks, coves, meadows, swamps, fishing hereditaments, royalty, minerals, profits, privileges and comodities whatsoever, situate, lying and being, arising, happening or accruing, or which shall arise, happen or accrue on or within the limits aforesaid. The meadow of Captain William Poole, and Mrs. Jane Farewell and William Hailstone onely excepted. To have and to hold all and

singular the messuages or tenements, lands, grounds, and soils, and all the aforementioned to be Granted and released premises with the members and appurtenances thereof contained within the bounds and limits aforesaid unto the said John Hathaway, Edward Bobbett and Samuel Holloway and William Phillips, their heirs and assigns forever, according to their each and every of their particular several & respective estate, right, title and interest whatsoever in and to the premises or to any part or parcel therein severally and not joyntly with the rights, members, privileges, comodities and appurtenances thereof, so that I the said William Bradford nor my heirs shall or may from hence forth have claim or demand any Estate, right, title or intesest in or to the sd granted and released premises or any part or parcel thereof but of and from all action of right, title, interest, claim and demand thereunto we and every of us to be ntter excludcd and forever debarred by these presents. To be holden of his Majesty as of his manour of East Greenwich in the County of Kent, within the Realm of England, in free and common soccage an not in capite nor Knight service, yielding and paying to our Sovereign Lord the King, his heirs and successors forever, one-fifth part of the ore of the mines of gold and silver, and one fifth part to the President and Council which shall be had possessed and obtained within the precincts aforesaid for all service and demands whatsoever as is expressed in the forerecited patent or Graunt from the Council Established at Plimouth. And I the said William Bradford, and my heirs, all and singular, the said premises with the appurtenances unto the said John Hathaway, Edward Bobbett, Samuel Holloway and William Phillips, their heirs and assigns forever, and to the onely use and behoof of themselves, their heirs and assigns forever, according to their each and every of their several particular proportion, right, title, Estate and interest therein respectively, against me and my heirs shall and will Warrant and forever defend by these presents.

In witness whereof, I, William Bradford have hereunto set my hand and seal, this ninth day of February one thousand six hundred eighty eight nine.

signed, sealed and

William Bradford

delivered in presence of us

[seal.]

Joseph Bradford

Kenelm Baker

Elisha Wadsworth

December 27 1689. Major William Bradford whose hand and seal is hereunto set and affixed, personally appeared and owned and acknowledged this Instrument to be his voluntary and free act and deed. Before Daniel Smith, Assistant, Entered and Recorded.

April 24th 1691, per Samuel Sprague, Recorder.

(Ply. Col. Rec. of Deeds, Vol. V. p. 459.)

APPENDIX F.

[Page 35.]

These seven were the only original freemen, and became prominent and influential men in town, and largely established its character and position in the colony. Their services were so important that in 1641, the Court gratefully voted them a grant of land in these words :

"Whereas those seaven first freemen, men of Taunton, that haue vndergone great tranell and charges about the attending of the Courts, laying out of lands, and other occations for the townne, it is thought meete by the goument that therefore they haue a pporcion of land in conuenient place lying together assigned them, so that it exceede not the quantyty of fourty acres apeece, besides thother pporcions of lands in other places as of other of the inhabits of the said townne of Taunton haue, when the said lands shall come to be denided hereafter." (2 Ply. Col. Rec. p. 18.)

APPENDIX G.

[Page 35.]

Presumably Captain Pool's company had considerably increased in the next four years. for in 1643, a list of "all the males able to beare Armes from xvi Yeares old to 60 yeares, within the seuerall Towneshippes" was made, by order of the General Court, and Taunton's list contained fifty four names, as follows: (8 Ply. Col. Rec. p. 195.)

Mr. John Browne,
W^r. Willm Poole,
John Browne,
James Browne,
James Walker,
Oliver Purchase,
Thomas Gilbert,
Richard Stacey,
Willm Hollway,
Tymothy Hollway,
Wilm Parker,
Peter Pitts,
John Parker.

Edward Bobbett,
Richard Paule,
Anthony Slocome,
Edward Case,
Thomas Farewell,
Tobias Saunders,
Henry Andrewes,
John Gallop,
John Gilbert, Junr.
John Stronge,
Thom Cassell,
John Deane,
Edward Abbott,

Willm Hailstone,
 Wm. Hodges,
 Willm Phillips,
 John Maycumber,
 Thomas Coggin,
 James Wyatt,
 Edward Rew,
 Thom Harvey,
 James Chichester,
 Willm Seward,
 Aron Knapp,
 John Barratt,
 Nicholas Hart,
 Willm Powell,

Walter Deane,
 Wm. Wetherell,
 Hezekiah Hore,
 George Macie,
 Georg Hall,
 John Perry,
 Benjamin Wilson,
 Mr. Street,
 Richard Williams,
 Willm Evans,
 Christopher Thrasher,
 Thomas Cooke,
 Thom Cooke, Jr.,
 John Gingell.

APPENDIX H.

[Page 36.]

* The law passed Mar. 5, 1638, establishing the representative system in the Colony was as follows :

“Whereas complaint was made that the ffremen were put to many inconveniences and great expense by their continuall attendance at the Courts, It is therefore enacted by the Court for the ease of the severall colonies and Townes within the Government, That every Towne shall make choyce of two of their ffremen, and the Towne of Plymouth of foure to be Committee or Deputies, to joyne with the Bench to enact and make all such lawes and ordinances as shall be judged to be good and wholesome for the whole. Provided that the lawes they doe enact shal be propounded one Court, to be considered upon untill the next Court, and then to be confirmed if they shal be approved of (except the case require present confirmacon). And if any act shall be confirmed by the Bench and Committees, which, upon further deliberacon, shall prove prejudicial to the whole, That the ffremen at the next elecon Court after meeting together, may repeal the same and enact any other usefull for the whole; and that every Township shall beare their Committees charges; and that such as are not ffremen, but have taken the Oath of fidelitie, and are masters of famylies and Inhabitants of the said Townes, as they are to beare their part in the charges of the Committees, so to have a vote in the choyce of them, provided they choose them only of the ffremen of the said Town whereof they are; but if any such Com-

mittees shall be insufficient or troublesome, that then the Bench and the other Committees may dismiss them, and the Towne to choose other freemen in their place."

(Ply. Col. Rec. Vol. XI. p. 31; Compact, Charter and Laws of New Ply. p. 63. This statute was re-enacted in 1658, and the pay of the deputies fixed at 2s. 6d. per day.)

The first new General Court met on the 4th day of June, 1639. In that year the Committees or deputies "for eich Towne" as stated in Ply. Rec. Vol. I. p. 126, were

For Plymouth.	{ Mr. John Done,† William Paddy,‡ Manasseh Kempton. John Cooke, Jr. John Dunhame,
For Duxborrow.	{ Jonathan Brewster, Edmund Chaundler,
For Scituate.	{ Anthony Annable. Edward Foster,
For Sandwich.	{ Richard Burne. Thomas Armittage,† Mr. John Vincent,
For Cohannet	{ Capt. Willm Poole,† Mr. John Gilbert, Henry Andrewes,
For Yarmouth.	{ Thomas Payne. Philip Tabor,
For Barnestable, made in December Court, 1639.	{ Mr. Joseph Hull, Mr. Thom Dimmack.

† No explanation is given of the reason why five names are given for Plymouth, and three for Sandwich and Cohannet. It may have been because too many were elected, and so erased; but the law provided only four for Plymouth, and two for every other town.

‡ The last two from Taunton in 1691, the last General Court at Plymouth, were John Hall and John Hathaway.

APPENDIX I.

[Page 36.]

The vote of the town authorizing the building of the first saw mill was in these words:

"Jan. 5, 1659. It is voted and agreed by the town that Henry Andrews and John Macomber shall have liberty to erect or set up a saw mill on the Mill River, if it be not found hurtful to the grist mill, upon

these terms following: That the inhabitants of the town shall have liberty to bring what timber they shall think meet, either pine, chestnut, or cedar, and what timber any of the inhabitants shall bring as abovesaid they shall deliver the one half of it again to him that brought it, sawing either to boards or planks as the inhabitants shall see cause.

And what other boards the inhabitants abovesaid shall need for their own particular case, the said Henry Andrews and John Macomber shall sell them at the rate of four shillings to a hundred ordinary town pay, and this abovesaid mill to be in some forwardness within one year after the date hereof, or else this order to be of no effect."

The mill was probably soon erected, for we find the town again voting under date of Jan. 2, 1664, "that the fish shall have a convenient passage up and down the Mill River."

In April 1664, William Witherell and Gyles Gilbert were complained of for disturbing said saw mill, and ordered to recognize in the sum of 20 pounds each, the cause for which is thus stated (4 Ply. Col. Rec. p. 56) "That whereas James Walker, being a ptenor in the Saw Mills at Taunton, complained of great hurt done to the said Saw Mill by som psons that came in the night in a feleonious manor and stole away severall things and did great spoile and left a libellous paper behind them; and it being suspected that the above bounden William Witherell and Gyles Gilbert were the psons, or some of them, that have done the said mischiffe, they, the said William Witherell and Gyles Gilbert, being summoned appeered at Plymouth before the Gov and Captaine Southworth, on the day and yeare above first written, and being examined, it appeared that they were guilty in the aforesaid particulars, and therefore the said majistrates saw cause to take the said bonds of them for their good behavior &c."

At the next General Court in May, 1664, Joseph Gray and Samuell Linkon were complained of for the same offence, and gave bonds in like manner for their good behavior. Thereupon they retaliated by complaining of the owners of the saw mill for not leaving a sufficient passage for the fish, which resulted in the following order. (4 Ply. Col. Rec. p. 57.)

"Whereas, att this Court, the above bounded Joseph Gray and Samuell Linkorne, together with George Watson, complained of great wrong, sustained not onely by them, but by the whole towne of Taunton, by James Walker his neglecting, according to engagement, to leave a sufficient passage for the herrings or alewines to goe vp in the riuer on which the saw mill standeth, the Court directed an order to the con-

stable of Taunton, to require him to signify vnto the said James Walker that hee speedily take course that a free passage bee left for the goeing vp of the alewines in the said riner whiles yett some pte of the season remaines of theire goeing vpp." (Ply. Col. Rec. Vol. IV. p. 57.)

Apparently this order did not accomplish the purpose, for at the June Court, 1664, another order was passed :

"In reference to the complaint of sundry of the inhabitants of the towne of Taunton against James Walker and others, for the restraining of the alewines from goeing vp according to their vsuall manner by reason of a sawmill in theire herring riner, by which obstruction of the said fish the said towne hath and is in danger to suffer much damage, this Court hath ordered, that betwixt this date and the next season of the fishes goeing vp, they, the said owners of the mill shall make or cause to be made a free full and sufficient passage for the goeing vp of the said fish, or otherwise, vpon the further complaint of the towne, the Court will take an effectuall course that the same shall be done." (Ply. Col. Rec. Vol. IV. p. 66.)

At the same Court (p. 66) Witherell, Gilbert, Gray and Linkorne "were sentenced by the Court to pay each a fine of twenty shillings for an abuse done to a saw mill att Taunton belonging to James Walker and others, by comeing in the night and breaking downe some pte of the said mill, and for takeing away severall things from the same."

Thus far the contest might be called a "draw game," but William Witherell was not discouraged. He commenced a suit against the mill owners, and in 1666, recovered a judgment, which is thus recorded :

"George Watson, Gyles Gilbert, and William Witherly complained against James Walker, Robert Crosman, John Maycomber, and Nicholas White, in an action of trespas on the case, to the damage of an hundred pounds, for hindering the fish from haneing a convenient passage vp and downe the Mill Riuier att Tannton, by the worke about the saw mill, contrary to the inhabitants of the towne of Taunton, and contrary to the promise of the said James Walker, all which hath bine great damage to the complainants and others.

The jury find for the plaintifles, that a sufficient passage be made by the defendants att the Mill Riuier att Taunton for the fish where they vsuall goe vp and downe, where the saw mill or dam now erected is an annoyance to the said fish, the expence of time and the cost of the suite." (Ply. Col. Rec. Vol. VII. Page 131.)

APPENDIX J.

[Page 38.]

The following letter from Robert Treat Paine in 1774, shows that Taunton had the same difficulty in those days as now, in securing her supposed just proportion of the herring fishery.

Province of
Massachusetts Bay

To his Excellency Thomas Hutchinson Esq.
To the Honorable his Majestys Council And the
honorable the House of Representatives in General
Court assembled the twenty sixth day of January
1774.

humbly shew the Inhabitants of the Town of Taunton in the County of Bristol by Daniel Leonard & Robert Treat Paine, Esqrs. their Agents for this purpose duly appointed, that the Great & Generall Court of this Province have in their great Wisdom & Care from time to time enacted divers Laws to prevent the destruction of Alewives & other Fish, and have endeavored to regulate the taking of Alewives in such a manner, as that the Communitys who, without such Laws would have the natural Right of taking them, should under such Regulation take as large a proportion of them as is consistent with the necessary Preservation of said Fish.

that the General Court held in May 1765 passed a Law forbidding Alewives to be taken any otherwise than by Scoop Netts, saving an allowance to take them in Taunton Great River two days in the week by Seines or Drag Netts allowing two Seines to each Town in the County of Bristol, after it shall be known that they have been at Middleboro in the Spring of the Year annually, which Law is still in force by a continuation of the same to November Anno Domini 1775.

The said Town of Taunton beg leave humbly to represent, that there are some circumstances attending said Town which they Apprehend render that allowance not so sufficient for said Town, as the General Court might think it was when said Law was made.

That the Alewives in their course from the ocean to the Pond to east their spawn are obliged to come up Taunton Great River through the centre of the Town, that there is a small River called Mill River in sd Town which empties into the Great River in said Town; that the Alewives used formerly to go up said Mill River in much greater quantitys than they have done for many years past, & were used to be taken with Scoop Netts in considerable quantitys, but for a number of years past they have in great measure left said Mill River, & keep their course

up the Great River to Middleboro Bridgewater & other Towns, by means whereof very few are taken in said Mill River, not sufficient to pay the expense of taking them, & there is no other place in said Taunton where the Alewives can be taken with Scoop Netts.

Your Petitioners beg leave to assert, what they are certain will appear upon examination, that it has not been owing to any defects in the Town of Taunton in not keeping the passage ways open up said Mill River according to the Laws of this Province in such case provided, that the Alewives have left said River, & proceed up the Great River to the Towns above; for the passages through the Damms on said Mill River have always been carefully kept open according to said Laws, which in the nature of the thing proves very detrimental to the Mills on said River which by means thereof are obliged to stand still at a Time when the plenty of water & clemency of the Season would render it most profitable for them to work

Your Petitioners would further represent, that the Alewives passing by said Mill River proceed up to Middleboro & other Towns where they are taken by Scoop Netts with great Ease, and at Middleboro in great plenty, so that for many years past the chief of the Alewives that have passed up Taunton Great River which have been taken, have been taken at Middleboro, And that this always will be the case unless the Town of Taunton are allowed to take Alewives by Drag Netts as well as Dip Netts.

Your Petitioners would further Represent that ever since the making the above said Law allowing two Seines two stated days in the week they have diligently improved that priviledge but from experience it turns out, that that allowance is not so great as at first it appears to be, for that those stated days often prove stormy, & even if the weather be fair the Alewives do not run on some days as on others.

From all which your Petitioners apprehend it appears that the said Town of Taunton can't enjoy their just proportion of the Fish that are allowed to be taken, as the Law now stands & that taking the chance of Seasons with great Submission we apprehend that if the Town of Taunton were allowed to draw six seines, four days in the week they would not get their proportion with the Town of Middleboro, that on the whole more Alewives would not be taken, but only more of them would be taken at Taunton, as the times for taking them at Taunton & the Towns above might be the same.

Your Petitioners have no desire to frustrate the good Intention of the wholesome Laws made for the preservation of the Alewives but as they apprehend they are entitled by nature to at least as great a proportion of Alewives as the Inhabitants of Middleboro & the other Towns & on some accounts more, they think it hard to have the Alewives pass by their Doors thro the Heart of their Town without such a regulation of the taking them that they may get their proportion of those proper to be

taken, & to be obliged to undergo the expense & trouble of going to Middleboro to buy the very Fish that went by their Doors & through two large expensive Bridges over said Great River which they have erected & are obliged to maintain for the public conveniency

Your Petitioners therefore humbly pray that your Excellency & Honours would provide for the relief of the said Town in the premises by allowing the Inhabitants thereof to draw six seines four days in the week during the running of said Fish or otherwise relieve your Petitioners as to your Excellency & Honours shall seem meet and your Petitioners as in duty bound shall ever pray

Robt. Treat Paine

Danl. Leonard.

In the House of Representatives March 2, 1774.

Read and ordered that Henry Gardner and Benjamin Lincoln Esqrs. with such as the Hon. Board shall join be a Committee to take this Petition together with the Petitioners of the towns of Bridgewater & Middleboro all of them praying for the regulating the Alewife Fishery in Taunton Great River: and to repair, the next season of the passing of said Fish up said River, to the Town of Taunton & the several Towns thro or by which said River runs or any stream or streams run or pass into said River, in which stream or streams said Fish pass up and Report to this Court at the next Session thereof what new regulations, if any, are necessary to be made for taking Alewives in Taunton Great River and the several Branches or streams running into the same.

sent up for Concurrence T. Cushing Spkr.

In Council March 3d 1774 is Read & Concurred.
and Artemas Ward is joined in the affair.

Jno. Cotton D. Seery.

(State Arch. Vol. 87. p. 568.)

APPENDIX K.

(Page 39.)

Bradford in his history, p. 101, speaking of the first marriage at Plymouth, between Edward Winslow and Mrs. Susannah White, says:

“ May 12, 1621, was y^e first marriage in this place, which, according to y^e laudable custome of y^e Low Countries in which they had lived, was thought most requisite to be performed by the magistrate as being a

civill thing . . . and most consonant to y^e scripturs, Ruth 4, and no wher found in y^e gospell to be layd on y^e ministers as a part of their office . . . And this practiss hath continued amongst not only them, but hath been followed by all y^e famous churches of Christ in these parts to this time. —An^o : 1646.”

The solemnization of marriage by the civil authority alone, to the exclusion of the minister, was at first sustained only by public opinion, not by positive law. But in 1671 it was enacted by the General Court of *Massachusetts*,

“That no person in this Jurisdiction shall joyne any persons together in marriage, but the Magistrate, or such other as the Court shall authorize in such place where no magistrate is near, nor shall any joyn themselves in marriage, but before some Magistrate, or person authorized as aforesaid.”

It was not until 1692 that the Provincial Statute provided that “every Justice of the Peace within the County where he resides, and every settled minister in any town, shall and are hereby respectively impowred and authorized to solemnize marriages &c.”

The fee for each marriage was three shillings.

(1 Prov. Sts. c. 25. p. 61.)

See an interesting article on this subject in the *Atlantic Monthly* of April, 1888, by Frank Gaylord Cooke, Esq., of the Boston Bar.

APPENDIX L.

[Page 40.]

The act creating the office of town clerk in 1646 was in these words :

“It is enacted by the Court that there shalbee in enery towne within this Gou ment a Clarke or some one appointed and ordeined to keep a Regester of the day and yeare of the marriage beirth and buriall of euery man woman and child within theire towneship; and to hane thripence apeece for each pteulare pson soe registered; and further it is enacted that enery father or mother and next in relation shall certify to the towne clarke or register keeper the name and day of the beirth of enery child soe borne in his house within one month next after it is

borne or bee fined for euery such default three shillings the one half to the Gou ment and the other halfe moyetie thereof to the clarke or register keeper vpon his complaint and that euery pson married shall signify his and her name with the day on which they are married vnto the said clarke or register keeper within one month next after his said marriage vpon the like penaltie of three shillings the one halfe thereof to the vse of the Collonie; and the other halfe to the said clarke or register keeper vpon his complaint and alsoe that euery master or mistris of the family in which any pson or pson next in relation to them soe dead shall giue notice vnto the said Clarke or register keeper; the name of the pson and the day of his said buriall and in defect thereof to forfeit three shillings for every default; the one half to the Gou ment and the other halfe to the clarke or register keeper upon his complaint; and that the clarke or register keeper of each township shall exhibite a true and pfect Coppy fairly written annually att March Courts vnto the Court of the beirthes marriages and burialls of the yeare past; and lastly that the clarke or register keeper of euery Township shall publish all the contracts of marriages and haue twelve pence for his fees for euery marriage as hee publisheth orderly; (Ply. Col. Rec. p. 52 and p. 189.)

THE OATH OF A TOWNE CLARKE.

You shall faithfully serue in the office of a Towne Clarke of the Towne of _____ for this prsent yeare and soe long as by mutuall Consent the Towne and you shall agree during which time you shall carefully and faithfully keep all such Records as you shalbee Intrusted withall; and shall reoord all towne acts and orders and shall enter all Towne graunts and Conveyances you shall record all beirtes marriages and burialls that shalbee brought vnto you within youer towne and shall publish all Contracts of marriages you shalbee required to doe according to order of Court bearing date the 20th day of October 1646 soe healp you God; (XI Ply. Col. Rec. p. 107 and p. 190.)

How soon after this law Taunton chose a town clerk, is not now certainly known, but in an old record book of the town, recently discovered we read that,

“ Upon March 7th 1654 at a general town meeting warned by John Deane Constable of Taunton was Oliver Purchis chosen to be the Towne Clarke to keep all registers and records appertaining to town matters according to order of Court, and to take his oathe according to order of Court also for a man sustaining legal office. ”

The first record of the election of Shadrach Willbore as town clerk, in 1664, reads thus :

"The Town clerk chosen for the present year being this sixth of March, 1664, or 5, is Shadrach Wilbore, and so to continue as long as he the said Clerk and the town shall agree.

And it is voted and agreed by the town this sixth of March, 1664-5 that the said Clerk shall have of the town twenty shillings by the year.

And it is voted and agreed by the town at a town meeting, that the said town commit to the said Town Clerk to keep the Town Book and the Registry the day and year above written." (Prop. Rec. p.)

APPENDIX La.

[Page 40.]

No doubt before the law actually so *required*, the town had found it necessary to select some of its wisest men, to whom as agents was intrusted the management of town affairs; for in the earliest records of the town, kept by Oliver Purchis, and which have recently been discovered in an old junk store in Boston, we read that so early as December, 1643, the town voted—

"That seven men be yearly chosen to order towne affairs

"That these seven shall meet six times in a year at some convenient place to consider and order town matters, and to hear and arbitrate differences.

That these seven shall have power to determine of all trespasses and debts under three pounds, and none to enter any suits in court for such trespasses or debts without their consent.

That these shall have power (consent hereunto of the Magistrates and General Court for this patent being first obtained) to give warrant to destrain or attach for such debts or trespasses, as likewise for notes that are or shall be unpaid.

That no inhabitant, or other that hath a homelott, shall buy any other homelott, but with the consent of these seven.

(illegible)

as also that these shall have power to ad unto any mans division upland according to their discretion.

Item: That it shall be in the power of the said seven men according to their discretions to divide and distribute the said lands unto the said inhabitants according as they shall from time to time see needful and convenient.

That these shall have power to admitt as inhabitants and to dispose to them either certain small portions of lands without giving them rights in other divisions, or to admitt them to all divisions with others according to their discretions, but not to admitt any to a certain quantity exceeding ten acres, without the consent of the towne.

That when any shall be proposed to them for admission they shall first acquaint the Towne therewith, and not to receive them as inhabitants till all just exceptions are removed.

That these shall have power to dispose of small quantities of land yt lye not within ye compass of g—(probably great) divisions, to any inhabitant ye standeth in need, and also f—(probably for) conveniency according to ye ———(probably discretion) of ye seven.

That a convenient quantity of meadow down the river be reserved to be divided by the same proportion and rule of other meadow and upland according to ye discretion of these seven either to after commers, or to such as shall be possessed of lots of those who have left the place as they (illegible) shall think good. (illegible) such (illegible)”

Under date of March 1645, the same records show another vote of the town in these words :

“ Item: These seven men which shall be yearly chosen shall have power to divide and dispose of lots and parcels of ye meadow called Scaddings Moore, according as from time to time they shall see needful unto such who shall be deemed mete by their necessities of fodr for their cattle, until the said medow be wholly disposed; this act is repealed. only James Wyatt's grant of six acres within the said medow before this repeal, and is provided that he shall have no part in any other division of ye said medow.

Item: At ye aforesaid day were chosen for ye seven men these following for ye yeare.

Henry Andrews
George Hall
Edward Case
William Parker

Otis Olney
John Strong
Richard Williams
Walter Deane”

1647. From the deed to Henry Andrews in 1647, of the “calf pasture,” it seems that these seven in that year were John Strong, Oliver Purchis, Walter Deane, Richard Williams, Edward Case, (the name of the other two are not given in the deed)

The record above referred to contains also these elections of selected men.

March 9, 1648. There is chosen for the following yeare 1649 to be the seven men to order the Towne affairs. Mr. Thomas Gilbert, Walter

Deane, Edward Case, James Wyatt, Richard Williams, George Masey, Oliver Purchis.

March 7, 1649. It is mutually chosen to serve as seven men for the present yeare following, as followeth:

Richard Williams,	Walter Deane
Henry Andrews	William Parker
James Wyatt	James Walker

Oliver Purchis.

April the sixth, 1650. There is chosen to serve men to order Towne affairs for this present yeare, viz:

Richard Williams	James Wyatt
James Walker	George Masey
William Parker	Jno. Tisdall

Oliver Purchis

March the 11th. 1651. There is chosen for the yeare following viz, 1652, to serve as seven men to order Towne affairs.

Lient. Wyatt	Richard Williams
Walter Deane	William Parker
Mr. Thomas Gilbert	James Walker

Oliver Purchis

January the 15th. Ano. 1656. This agreed by the towne that these five men, to wit, Captaine Poole, Deacon Williams, Deacon Deane, James Wyatt and George Hall, shall order all matters in and about the erecting seats in the meeting house, and shall seate the inhabitants according to their discretion." (these may or may not have been the same as chosen to order town affairs)

1657. These were for the year, Captain William Poole, George Hall, Mr. William Parker, Lient. James Wyatt and John Deane.

December the 27th. 1658. The 5 men chosen to order towne affairs are Richard Williams, Wm. Parker, George Mase, John Tisdale, James Walker"

The law creating the legal office of Selectmen may be found in 2 Ply. Col. Records. p.

Suits were sometimes brought by the settlers against the selectmen to recover their lots, one of which reads in this way :

"March, 5th. 1667. William Hailstone complained against George Hall, William Harvey, and Richard Williams, as celectmen of the towne of Taunton, in an action of the case, to the damage of fifty pounds, for non pformance of a towne order of the towne of Taunton aforesaid, bearing date the 9th. of September, 1667,* respecting land due to him vpon deui-

*NOTE. It should be remembered that at the time, September, 1667, was earlier than March 1667, as the year commenced about March 25th, instead of January 1st.

sion, as being an ancient purchaser. The jury find for the plaintiffe his proportion of land due him as appears by their towne orders, twelue pence damage, and the cost of the suite.

A review was granted to defendants of this action. The names of the jury that tryed the last above named were, sworne:

William Peabody	John Thompson	John Tracey
Thomas Tilden	Henery Wood	Gilbert Brookes
Andrew Rindge	Samuell Sturtivant	Samuell Ryder
Ensign Jonathan Alden,	William Swift	William Foard, Jr.

(Ply. Col. Rec. Vol. VII. p. 143.)

APPENDIX M.

[Page 41.]

On June 2, 1646, the General Court gave the town permission to purchase a calf pasture as follows:—

“The Court doth graunt to the inhabits of Taunton that they shall purchase the peell or neck of land, or yland, lying at namaskett Pond, or wth in the sd pond w^{ch} they desire for a calves pasture, and to haue the use of it vntill there shalbe a plantacon erected there abouts to whom it may be helpfull; and that then they, paying the purchase and the charg that Taunton inhits shalbe at about the said peell of land, shall haue such pt thereof as shalbe thought meete by the Court.” (2 Ply. Col. Rec. p. 102.)

This tract was apparently beyond the limits of the original purchase of Taunton: and on April 11th, 1647, it was conveyed by the town to Mr. Andrews, in payment for the erection of the meeting-house, by a deed in these words, viz:

BRADFORD GOV’R.

“This indenture following was recorded by order from the Court:

This Indenture made the eleventh day of the second month in the year of our Lord 1647 between the inhabitants of Taunton in the colony of New Plymouth in New England of the one party, and Henry Andrews inhabitant of the said plantation of Taunton within the colony of New Plymouth in New England of the other party witnesseth, that whereas there was a certain parcel of land or neck of land appertaining unto the inhabitants of Taunton aforesaid called by the said inhabitants their calves pasture, That this parcel or neck of land, it lying and being

bounded by the Great River from the land of Richard Williams inhabitant of Taunton heading it the said neck at the upper corner thereof, and the land of George Hall, inhabitant of Taunton heading it at the lower corner thereof or near unto it, &c, This parcel or neck of land with its appurtenances is granted and sold by the inhabitants of Taunton aforesaid unto him the aforesaid Henry Andrews and his heirs and executors or assigns, To have and to hold forever in lieu of a meeting house built by him the aforesaid Henry Andrews for the inhabitants of Taunton aforesaid for their full satisfaction for the said neck of land, and for his peaceable and secure enjoyment thereof by him the said Henry Andrews or his assigns, &c, any or every of them, it is further promised by the inhabitants aforesaid that all such manner of persons as have been heretofore inhabitants resident within this plantation of Taunton them or their heirs or assigns that shall challenge or demand any part or portion in the aforesaid neck of land, shall be either satisfied for their part of the charge bestowed thereon by the town in fencing, thereof to make it a calves pasture or else be satisfied in land in some other place. As also it is by these presents witnessed and promised by the inhabitants aforesaid, that this said parcel or necke of land shall not be rated by the town aforesaid: and for the better confirmation of this deed have the seven men chosen by the inhabitants of Taunton aforesaid to order the affairs of the town for that present year, have set to their hands for the day and year first above written.

John Strong.
Oliver Purchis.
Walter Deane.
Richard Williams.
Edward Case.

(Ply. Rec. of Deeds Vol. II. p. 57.)

APPENDIX N.

[Page 42.]

Mr. Baylies, who wrote before the loss of the Town records in 1838, thus states the action of the Town as to these iron works.

"It was at a town meeting conferred and agreed upon between the inhabitants of Taunton and Henry Leonard of Braintree:

Imprimis. It was agreed and granted by the town to Henry and James Leonard, his brother, and Ralph Russell, free consent to come hither and join with certain of our inhabitants to set up a Bloomery work on the Two Mile River.

"It was also agreed and granted by a free vote of the Town, that such particular inhabitants as shall concur together with the said persons in this design, shall have free liberty from the town so to do, to build and set up this work, and that they shall have the woods on either side of the Two Mile River, wherever it is common on that side of the river, to cut for their cord wood to make coals, and also to dig and take moine or ore at Two Mile Meadow, or in any of the commons appertaining to the town, where it is not now in propriety." (Baylies, Part II. p. 268.)

Documentary evidence in the hand-writing of Oliver Purchis, the first town clerk, gives these persons as proprietors "in the Bloomerie," viz:

The names of those who hath put in themselves to be proprietors in the Bloomerie, viz: Hezekiah Hoare, Thomas Gilbert, Richard Williams, Walter Dean, George Hall, Oliver Purchis, James Walker, John Tisdale, Wm. Parker, Mr. Gilbert Senr., Peter Pitts, Richard Stacey, John Cobb, Wm. Hodges, Nathaniel Woodward, Timothy Holloway, James Burt, Edward Bobitt, Jonah Austin Senr., John Parker, Samuel Wilbore, Miss E. Pole, Jane Pole.

Additional records show the names of Wm. Pole, Timothy Lindall of Salem, his son-in-law, Nicholas White Senr., Henry Withington, John Turner, Thomas Linkon Senr., Anthony Slocum, James Leonard, Thomas Amsbery, Jos. Wilbore, Henry Andrews, John Hall, James Phillips, Francis Smith, Geo. Watson, Gov. Leverett and Major Edward Tyng of Boston, Nath'l. Paine Senr. and Stephen Paine of Rehoboth, John Cary and Nathaniel Paine Jr., of Bristol, Benedict Arnold of Newport, Richard Thayer of Braintree—contributing from 20 pounds to 5 pounds each, for whole, half and quarter shares.

(See a valuable article by Capt. J. W. D. Hall, read before the Old Colony Historical Society, No. 3. p. 134.)

APPENDIX O.

(Page 45.)

The report of the Committee defining the boundaries of Taunton in 1640, is thus recorded:

"The limmits and bounds of the plantacon of the towne of Taunton als Cohannet, wthin the goument of Plymouth, bounded and ranged for length and breadth, by order of Court, by Miles Standish & John Browne,

gentlem, Assistants in the goument, the Xixth day of June, ano Dm 1640, in the xvjth yeare of our souaine lord, Charles, &c, as followeth. vizs:—

Impris from two marked trees nere vnto Asonet, a neck of land being betweene Asonet and them, lying southerly, and from the said marked trees ranging east and by south foure miles; rangeing also from the extent of the said foure miles north and by west; also from two markt trees neere the Three Mile Riuer, lying southerly of Taunton, the rang to runn foure miles west & by north; and from the extent of this last meneoned foure miles, the rang to runn north and by west eight miles; moreou, from the extent of this eight miles range, then the range to runn on the east and by south line, to meete wth the former expressed north and by west lyne vpon a long square; alwayes puided, that if these ranges do not take in a place called Schadingmore Meddowes, the said Schadingmore Meddows to be included as belonging to the aforesaid towne of Taunton, wth one thousand acres of vpland neere and adjacent vnto the said meddowes; provided likewise, that these lines do not intitle the said towne of Taunton to intermeddle wthin two miles of Teightaquid.

MILES STANDISH,
JOHN BROWN.”

(2 Ply. Col. Rec. p. 99–100.)

APPENDIX P.

[Page 45.]

The first addition seems to have been of meadow lands at Assonet, in March, 1640, when the General Court passed this order:—

“WHEREAS the inhabitants of Cohannett, now called Taunton, haue complayned of thire greate want of meddow grounds, the wch. hath beene seriously weighed and considered vpon by speciall order of the whole body of the Court, and fynding their wants to be such that vnlesse they be supplied of meddow lands they cannot comfortably there subsist, the Court doth therefore now order and graunt the meadow lands at Assonett. and betwixt Taunton and Assonett on both sides of the riuer, vnto the said inhabitants of Taunton, provided always that the ministers and people now there which are fitt & do pceede & continue in a church estate there the space of seauen yeares next ensuing, (ex-

cept some special hand of God doe hinder the same,) that then the meddow lands aforesaid shalbe to them and their heires, to haue & to hold to them & their heires foreuer." (1 Ply. Col. Rec. p. 142.)

In 1643, the inhabitants of Taunton having applied to the General Court for permission to purchase more wood and pasture land, the Court passed this order: (2 Ply. Col. Rec. p. 58.)

"The Court is willing to condescend thus far, viz: that those lands which belong to Hesbone may be procured by all due means, and with what convenient speed may be; also that the best and speediest means be used to procure them further enlargement on that side of the Main River to answer to Mr Hooke and Mr. Street's farms on the other side; and whereas they desire the Neck of Assonet for pasturing young beasts, it is also granted by the court, provided leave can be procured from Ousamequin, and all payments to be made by themselves without any charge to the country; but whereas the timber is requested below the said bounds, that we cannot grant without great detriment to another plantation intended below that."

This land was probably bought of Ossamequin (or Massasoit,) for in 1663 his son Philip made a confirmatory deed of the same, as well as of the original first purchase; a copy of which is as follows:

"March 23, 1663. These Presents witnesseth, That whereas there was a plantation graunted by the Court of Plymouth in the year one thousand six hundred and thirty-eight (named Taunton) to sundry persons whoe there satt downe viz: Capt. William Poole, Mr. John Gilbert, Henery Drew, John Dean, Walter Deane and sundry others, the bounds of which plantation are expressed in the graunt of the Court of Plymouth according to the several points of the compass, therein expressed, which plantation so bounded as above mentioned, together with the meadows upon the Great River downward so far as the Store House Point so called, with all the meadow of Assonett and Broad Cove, with a small tract of land bought of Ishbon lying betwixt the marked tree at the pond and the mouth of the Nistoyoahamock or the Three Mile River, which lands and meadows with their appurtenances, immunities and privileges whatsoever were bought of Ousamequin by the parties above mentioned; I Philip Sachem do therefore by these presents, ratify and confirm for myself my heirs and successors the granted premises made by the Court of Plymouth and also assented unto by Ousamequin my father, to the aforesaid inhabitants of Taunton and their heirs and successors forever, peaceably to enjoy without molestation or disturbance

from, by or under me. Witness my hand and seal the day and year above written.

Witness

John Sasamon, Interpreter.

Philip the Sachem

“his P mark and [seal]

The mark X of Pemichason alias Nimrod.

This confirmation was signed and sealed before me the day and year above expressed. Witness my hand,

THOMAS WILLETT.

(Ply. Rec. of Deeds, Vol. III. page 13, part 1.)

In October of the same year (1663) the southern boundary of these purchases was thus defined by the General Court :

“The inhabitants of the towne of Taunton having senerall times, for diuers yeares, complained of the straightness of the bounds of their towne and haueing petitioned the Court for some enlargement, the Court haueing desired some to take a view of what they haue desired, and finding that it is not likely to bee prejudiciall to any, they graunt as followeth, viz: that the path which goeth from Namassakett to Assonet Riuer bee their bounds on the southeast, and soe by a line from thence to Baiting Brooke, and from Baiting Brooke a north line till it meet with their opposite line called the Longe Square, provided that it come not within two miles of Tetacutt: alsoe, it is graunted that the inhabitants of Taunton that haue interest in the iron workes there shall haue free libertie to cutt wood on those lands for the vse of their iron workes, but not any foraigner excepting Richard Church, of Hingham.”

(4 Ply. Col. Rec. p. 45.)

The original Taunton was apparently separated from Titacutt by an intervening strip of land, about two miles wide: and this territory soon became an object of desire by the settlers; and in 1660, the General Court made this preliminary order in regard to it. viz :

“A peell of land, lying betwixt Tetacutt and Taunton, is to bee viewed by Constant Southworth and William Peabody, and if it shalnot bee found within the bounds of Taunton, nor to neare Tetacutt, that then William Brett, John Willis, Thomas Haward, Senior, and Arthur Harris haue a competency graunted and confeirmed vnto them, if it bee there to bee found; if not, they haue libertie to looke out for further supply with what conveniency they can.” (Ply. Col. Rec. Vol. III. page 193.)

This soon led to a grant by the Court, in 1665 unto William Brett, Thomas Haward, Sen., Arthur Harris, Richard Williams, John Willis and John Carey, to each of them three-score acres of land *lying betwixt the lands of Taunton and Titicut*; but in case these lands shall any of them fall within the last grant of Taunton, these lands being before granted to these men, notwithstanding, it shall not make the former grant void, but that the said lands shall be and remain, with all and singular the appurtenances belonging unto them, to the said William Brett, Thomas Haward, Sen., Arthur Harris, Richard Williams, John Carey, to them and their heirs and assigns forever." (Ply. Col. Rec. Vol. IV. p. 45.)

APPENDIX Q.

[Page 45.]

In the Ply. Col. Rec. Vol. IV. p. 18, (1662) we read as follows:

"Captaine Willett is appointed by the Court to purchase the lands of the Indians which is graunted vnto such that were servants, and others that are ancient freemen, which the———thinkes meet to add to them to haue interest in the said graunt, the tenure whereof is extant in the———of the Court.

And still later at the same Court, p. 28, another vote was passed as follows:

"Att this Court, Captaine Willett and some other whom hee shall thinke meet, are requested by the Court to view the bounds of Taunton, wherein they desire to bee enlarged; and if hee sees it convenient, and that it bee not prejudiciall to others, to confeirm it to them; and in case that Captaine Willett shall neglect soe to doe, the Court haue declared that they will take some course to answere theire desires att the next March Court."

These votes prepared the way for the purchase of much land of the Indians, including the North Purchase.

June 3, 1662. In reference vnto a former graunt to sundry ancient freemen of the towne of Taunton, to looke out lands for their accomodation, and in answere to the request of some others that are joyned with them in desiring accomodations of land, the Court haue granted vnto

them that they shalbee accomodated on the lands on the northerly bounds of Tamnton, and that the major, Captaine Southworth, and Captaine Bradford are appointed by the Court to purchase the same of the Indians in the behalfe of those heerafter named, provided that which shalbee purchased shall not bee prejudiciall to the Indians.

The names were as follows :

Captaine Thomas Southworth.	Joseph Warren.
Mr. Willam Parker.	Leift James Wyate.
Mr. Henery Andrews.	John Morton.
John Parker.	Ephraim Morton.
Gabriell Fallowell.	Robert Finney.
Gyles Rickard, Senior.	Ensigne Marke Eames.
Richard Wright.	William Paybody.
Anthony Snow.	George Hall.
Nathaniell Morton.	John Deane.
Mr. John Gilbert.	Walter Deane.
Captaine Poole.	John Dunham, Jr.
James Walker.	John Rogers.
Richard Williams.	George Bonum.
John Wood.	Jonathan Briggs.
Henery Wood.	David Briggs.
Willam Harlow.	John Bunday.

It is ordered by the Court that the abonsaid land shalbee purchased by the next June Court, and not to exceed such a proportion as is suitable in quantity to soe much as such a number as those haue that had a graunt with the major in those two graunts or traets before mentioned in this booke. (Ply. Col. Rec. Vol. IV. page 20.) 1662.

Subsequently three others were added to the above list, viz.: Mr. John Done, John Smalley, & Jonathan Sparrow. Id. p. 27.

The Rev. Dr. Blake in a very valuable paper read before the Old Colony Historical Society, in 1855, thus describes the acquisition of the North Purchase :

“In 1661 [or 1662] Capt. Thomas Willett of Rehoboth, either at the suggestion of the Court or by his own sagacity, bought this whole irregular tract of Wamsutta or Alexander, the son and successor of Massasoit as chief of the Pokenokets. This territory so purchased was by the Colony put into the hands of a Committee—Mr. Thomas Prence, Major Josias Winslow, Capt. Thomas Southworth, and Mr. Constant Southworth,—“to settle and dispose of said lands for the Colonies use.” A portion of this territory was granted by the Plymouth Court to the town of Rehoboth and called the “Rehoboth North Purchase.” This tract included Attleboro, Cumberland, R. I., and parts of Norton and Mansfield. But

all the region between Attleboro and Bridgewater—some fifty square miles—and the balance of Willett's purchase was still in possession of the Colony. It was bounded by the Massachusetts Patent on the north, by Bridgewater on the east, by Taunton on the south, and by Rehoboth North Purchase on the west. Taunton projected its northern corner half way through this trapezium. The idea that Taunton ought to possess the region into which it had so far projected its northern horn, took shape in a company of its chief citizens to buy it of the colony. A bargain was soon made and a deed granted to fifty-two purchasers. It is dated 6th June, 1668, and this is a copy from the Ply. Col. Deeds, Book, 3, p. 118.

PRENCE GOVR.

“Whereas the Generall Court of New Plymouth have Impowered Mr. Thomas Prence, Major Josias Winslow, Capt. Thomas Southworth and Mr. Constant Southworth to take notice of some purchases of land lately made by Capt. Thomas Willett, and to settle and dispose the said lands for the Colonies use—Know therefore all whom it may anyway concern, That the above named Mr. Thomas Prenee, Captaine Thomas Southworth, Mr. Constant Southworth and Major Josias Winslow by vertue of power by and from the said Court derived unto them, have and by these presents doe bargaine, sell, grant, allien, allott, confer, and make over unto Richard Williams, Walter Deane, George Macye, James Walker, Joseph Wilbore, William Harvey, Thomas Leonard, John Turner, Henry Andrews, John Cobb, Gorg Hall, John Hall, Samuel Hall, James Leonard Senr., Nathaniel Williams, Thomas Williams, Nicholas White Senr. Nicholas White jun., Hezekiah Hoare, Allice Deane, Israel Deane, Robert Crossman, Shadrach Wilbore, Thomas Caswell, John Macomber, John Smith, Edward Rue, John Parker, Samuel Paule, Thomas Linkoln Senr. Thomas Harvey the elder, Nathaniel Thayer, Thomas Linkoln Jun. Peter Pitts, John Austine Senr. John Richmond, Samuell Williams, Christopher Thrasher, Mistriss Jane Gilbert, George Watson, Samuell Smith, James Burt, Richard Burt, John Tisdall Jun., James Phillips, Edward Bobbitt, John Hatheway, Jonathan Briggs, Enerease Robinson, John Bryant, Thomas Harvey Jun., Proprietors of the Town of Taunton, and to their heirs forever, a certain tract of land lying and being on the northerly syde of Taunton aforesaid, and is bounded as follows, viz: Beginning on the northwest att the bounds of the lands formerly sold by us unto the Town of Rehoboth, and to be bounded on the northerly syde by the Massachusetts line until it comes to bear with the western bounds of the Town of Bridgewater and soe from the said Massachusetts line by a south line home to the bounds of Taunton, and thence by a westerly line untill it meets with the bounds of Rehoboth abovesaid, and so to follow the said bounds of Rehoboth untill it comes unto the bounds first

mentioned upon the Massachusetts line; all the lands within this compass, excepting onley a small parcel granted unto John Bunday, and alsoe a grant made unto Thomas Briggs, the son of Clement Briggs, together with the meddows, woods, waters, and other benefitts, privileges, emoluments, proffits and ennuities thereto appertaining and belonging.

To have and to hold to them and their heires forever; and doe alsoe hereby acknowledge that wee have in hand received the full sume of an hundred pounds in full payment and satisfaction from the above said Richard Williams, Walter Deane and George Mayce, and the rest of their parteners above named, respecting the premises, and doe fully acquit, release, exonerate, free and discharge them and every of them, their heires, executors, and assigns, of and concerning the premises; for true performance whereof the above named Mr. Thomas Prence, Major Josias Winslow, Captaine Thomas Southworth and Mr. Constant Southworth have hereunto set our hands and seals the sixt [or first] day of June Ann. Dom. one thousand six hundred sixty and eight. 1668.

Signed, sealed and	)	THOMAS PRENCE,	and a [seal]
delivered in the presence)		
of THOMAS HINCKLEY,	)	JOSIAS WINSLOW	and a [seal]
)		
NATHANIEL BACON.	)	THOMAS SOUTHWORTH	and a [seal]
)		
	)	CONSTANT SOUTHWORTH	and a [seal]

Mr. George Shove his name is hereunto affix in the margeant as a propriator of the abovesaid lands by order of the Court upon testimony of the said Mr. Shove his title in the Premises, together with the acknowledgement of the same by the generality of the propriators concerned, and notice given to the propriators if they had anything to object against the said Mr. Shove, his interest, or the inserting of his name in the deed, they should present to the Court, as by several orders sent them may appear, and none did appear to present any such objection. The 8th of March, 1681: (82.)

(Ply. Deeds, Vol. III, page 118.)

The letter of Mr. Shove which led to the addition of his name as a grantee in the above deed was as follows:

"To the Right Worshipful Governor and Deputy-Governor, with the Worshipful Assistants, assembled at Plymouth, June 1, 1680.

RIGHT HONORABLE AND WORSHIPFUL,—It were great ingratitude to God, who continueth our peace and maketh us so happy in our rulers in this wilderness, unnecessarily to augment their burden and tronble. This consideration, with many more upon the heart of your

petitioner, hath made him slow to complain, as willing rather to suffer than contend for his right; being assured that God knows how to requite good for the wrong we suffer from men. But now (at least to his own apprehension) he is concluded under a necessity to make your authority his refuge. Be pleased, therefore, to take cognizance of his grievance, presented to your view as followeth:—

Some of the proprietors of the township of Taunton, in this Colony, purchasing a certain parcel of land, lying between Taunton's north line and the south line of Massachusetts Colony for themselves and their associates, your petitioner (who is also a proprietor in the said Taunton) essayed to join with them in their purchase of the said lands; upon which at the motion of some of themselves, it was agreed in a convention of the said proprietors that his proportion of charge in the said purchase should be defrayed amongst them: which he, being informed of (though more than he ever sought) accepted as their kindness, and upon that account, disbursed not at the times of payment as others did; and a considerable time passing between the time of the purchase and the making of the deed they now hold the said lands by,—(viz) two years or thereabouts,—he never had the least intimation that his interest in the said lands was questioned. Nevertheless, when this deed was obtained, in which the names of all the proprietors concerned ought to have been expressed, his name, and his only, was omitted; whereby that which he interpreted as a kindness he perceived to be managed to the contrary, and was in danger to prove a considerable damage. And after long patience exercised, and divers overtures made by him (some whereof being in writing are extant) to the said proprietors, in which he claimed his interest in the said lands (which yet lie in community not divided) the most of the said proprietors, being sensible how injurious it would be to exclude him in such a manner, were so ingenuous as to offer him a small script, with their several names subscribed thereto, wherein they acknowledge your petitioner's right, and that his name ought to have been put into the deed, &c., as may appear upon view of the said script. But some persons concerned appear against it and deny his interest; making non-payment (though not by his default) their advantage to deprive him of his just right.

In this your petitioner briefly (yet he trusts you will find faithfully) has presented his case before you; to whose sentence and judgment he freely subjects it, requesting your favorable construction of this his address, who most unwillingly and of constraint occasions you such trouble, is bound incessantly to pray for you, and subscribeth himself, worthy patriots,

Your servant in everything in the Lord,

GEORGE SHOVE.

(Mass. Hist. Soc. Coll. 4th Series, Vol. V. p. 36.)

The petition of Mr. Shove led to the following action by the Court; for at a General Court held at Plymouth, Oct. 28, 1618, it was ordered as follows :

“WHEREAS it did appeer to the Court holden att Plymouth in July, 1661, that Mr. George Shone, of Taunton, had an interest in a tract of land att Taunton, the North Purchase; and al tho, by what ouer sight so euer, his name was left out of the deed of the said land, the generallty of the said propriators doe owne the said Mr. Shone to haue an interest with themselves, and did petition to the Court that his name might be inserted in the said deed, and diners testimonies did appeer wherby it was euident to the Court that Mr. Shoue ought to haue his name entered in the said deed, and therefore directed an order to the clarke of the said propriators to call them together, and giue them notice, that if they had any thinge to object against Mr. Shoue why his name should not be entered in the said deed, that they appeer att this psent Court to render theire reasons if they hade any, otherwise the Court would see cause to enter or affix his name to the same deed, which the said clarke attests hee hath don; and wheras notwithstanding none doe appeer to oppose or object why Mr. Shoue should not haue his name entered, and the deed not being att Court, the Court doth heerby order the clarke of the said propriators to giue notice to the said propriators that hee is ordered by the Court to produce the deed of the said tract of land the next Court, which wilbe in March, 1682, that then the Secretary may enter Mr. Shoues name, or affix it to the said deed, vnlesse any of the said propriators then shew reason to the contrary. (Ply. Col. Rec. Vol. VI. Page 73.) 1681.

In March, 1682, therefore the entry of Mr. Shove's interest was made on the deed, as appears in the endorsement thereon before stated.

Mr. Blake's article then proceeds to say :

“As signs of settlement in the purchased territory appeared, the Punkoapags of Massachusetts raised a claim of ownership through Charles Josias, a son of Wampituck and grandson of Chickatabut, who lived at Neponset, now Stoughton. It shows the honest purpose of the proprietors that they voted Feb. 24, 1686, “To levy and to rais sixteen pence in money en each share in said purchase to pay Josiah. the Indian Sachem for a deed they have procured of him, and it is to be paid in to Thomas Leonard by the 16 day of March next.” This assessment amounted to 3 pounds, 19s, 6d.”

This additional deed from Josiah, in 1686 seems to have originated in this way—There being dispute between Taunton on the one side, and Bridgewater and Middleborough on the other as to the true eastern line of Taunton, the agents of those towns had agreed upon a line between them which the Indians claimed included a strip of land not within the original purchase of Taunton, and which was a part of the Titticut lands still belonging to them, therefore the sum above mentioned was raised to extinguish the right to *this strip*, and they gave a quitclaim deed of which the following is a copy:

“To all Christian People to whom these presents shall come, Josiah, otherwise called Charles, an Indian Sachem living at Mattakesett in ye Collony of New Plymouth & son of Josiah, deceased who was an Indian Sachem, and Peter & David Hunter (both Indians of Titticut, an Indian Plantation in New Plimouth Collony) send greeting, &c.

Know yee, that whereas it doth appeare to ye said Josiah & Peter & David, both by Indian & English testimonyes that Mrs. Elizabeth Poole formerly of Taunton in ye Government of New Plimouth aforesaid did, for and in behalf of the said Town of Taunton purchase ye lands of Titticut in ye year one thousand six hundred thirty & seven, and that ye right owners of the said lands did then make sale thereof to ye said Mrs. Elizabeth Poole as abovesaid & received pay of her for itt, and those Indians or Indian Sachems that formerly were ye right owners of those lands at said Titticut being those that were ye Predecessors of ye said Josiah, alias Charles & Peter & David,

Know yee therefore, that ye said Josiah, alias Charles & ye said Peter and ye said David, doe, by these presents so farr owne, acknowledge, rattifye & confirme ye abovesaid sale of those lands for ye Towne of Taunton aforesaid, that they so by these presents on ye aforesaid considerations give, grant, make over, sell, confirme and deliver unto Thomas Leonard, John Richmond, William Witherell & John Hathaway (all of Taunton abovesaid & agents for ye said Towne) for ye only use, benefitt, profitt & behoofe of ye proprietated inhabitants of said Taunton & such proprietors as are not inhabitants and to their heires & assignes forever, *so much of ye lands of all sortes, formerly called Titticut lands, as are & do lye within the Township of said Taunton by vertue of Agreements made between ye agents of said Taunton & the Agents of Bridgewater on ye Northwesterdly side of Titticut River and between ye Agents of said Taunton & ye Agents of Middlebury on ye Southeasterdly side of said River.* And by these presents ye said Josiah alias Charles & Peter & David being by ye abovesaid testimonyes convinced that their predecessors did sell ye above-said lands to ye Proprietors of Taunton & received a valluable summe as full content and payment for ye said lands

doe by these presents covenant and promise to & with ye said Thomas Leonard, John Richmond, William Witherell & John Hathaway (the agents of ye said Taunton,) that it shall be lawful and free forevere hereafter for ye said Thomas Leonard, John Richmond, William Witherell, and John Hathaway, & ye rest of ye Proprietors of said Taunton & their heires & assignes to have & to hold ye said Lands so much as falls & lyeth within ye Township of said Taunton as abovesaid by vertue of ye abovesaid Agreements as by record doth or may appear with all ye rights, priviledges and appurtenances within and upon ye said lands bounded as above-said. And ye said Josiah alias Charles & David & Peter doe by these presents freely, fully, absolutely & clearly promise, covenant & grant to & with ye said Thomas Leonard, John Richmond, William Witherell & John Hathaway that it shall be free and lawfull for them and ye rest of the Proprietors of said Taunton & their heires & assignes forever hereafter, to have, hold occupy and peaceably to enjoy ye aforesaid lands & premises (that are & lye within ye said Township of Taunton as afore-said) without any trouble, molestation or suites in Law or any incumbrance that may arise by, from or under them, ye said Josiah alias Charles & Peter & David or any or either of them or any or either of their heirs, executors, administs, or assigns forever, or any other person that may lay any lawfull claims thereunto or of any part or parcel thereof forever.

And moreover the said Josiah alias Charles and Peter & David doe hereby give ye said Thomas Leonard & John Richmond & William Witherell & John Hathaway free liberty & power in any of his Majestyes Courts of Record.

And to these premises the said Josiah alias Charles & Peter & David have sett their hands & seals the twentyeth day of July in ye yeare of our Lord God, one thousand six hundred eighty & six, 1686. The words in ye yeare one thousand six hundred & thirty seven between ye fifth & sixth lines, were before the signing, sealing and delivering of these presents.

The marke of **A** Josiah [Sigillum]

The marke of **P** Peter [Sigillum]

The marke of **D** David [Sigillum]

Hunter.

Signed, Sealed & delivered in ye presence of

Joseph Crosman,

Benjamin Leonard.

The marke of **i** John Cobb jun.,

Foelix indian **f ce** his marke.

Jabez **H** Hackitt.

his marke.

Memorandum, the witnin written Josiah & David & Peter, did at ye sealing of these presents reserve and except that land called Charles his feild on ye westward side of Titticut River, that is that which Charles & Obediah have now within fence, they allso except, and reserved any land in ye within Taunton Bouds on ye Eastward of Trout brooke where it comes into ye great River.

Witness Joseph Crosman, Benjamin Leonard, John Cobb, junior, **J** his marke, Jabez Hackitt, **H** his marke on ye twentyeth day of July 1686 ye within written witnesses, viz: Joseph Crosman, Benjamin Leonard, John Cobb, Junr., and Jabez Hackitt, tooke oath that they saw ye within written Josiah & Peter & David signe, seale & deliver this within instrument as their Act & deed before me,

THOMAS LEONARD, Associate.

Recorded primo December, 1686 pr. STEPHEN BURTON, Recorder.

This Josiah, the first signer of the above deed, was a great grandson of Chickatabut, and probably owned no more lands in this vicinity, and no more right in the original Taunton purchase than his ancestor had. But there is good reason to believe that the domain of Chickatabut did not include any of the Taunton lands, and extended only from "Nishamagoguanett, near Duxbury mill, to Teghacut, *near* Taunton." See the affirmation of five Indians, made the "1st of 4th month, 1650," and recorded in 2 Ply. Col. Rec. p. 157, from which the above language is quoted.

The regard of our ancestors for the Indian title to lands which they desired to obtain from the General Court, however vague and indefinite that title may have been, is well illustrated by a letter of Gov. Winslow, dated May 1, 1676, in which he writes:

"I think I can clearly say that before these present troubles broke out, the English did not possess one foot of ground in this Colony but what was fairly obtained by honest purchases of the Indian proprietors. We first made a law that none should buy or receive by gift any land of the Indians without knowledge of the Court." (See Thacher's History of Plymouth p. 138; also Ply. Col. Rec. Vol. XI. p. 41, 129, 183, 185.)

In 1689, Major William Bradford set up a claim or interest in all the territory about here, and on July 9th, 1689 made a deed to the purchasers of the North Purchase; the original of which now hangs on the walls of the Old Colony Historical Society, in Taunton, a copy of which with the original spelling is as follows:

To all unto whom these presints shall come, Greeting; whereas the Honourable the Councill Established at Plymouth in the County of Devon for the Planting, Ruleing, Ordering and Governing of New England, in America, By vertue and Authority of letters Patents, under the Great Seale of England, from our Late Sovereigne Lord King James the first, bearing Date at westminster in the eighteenth year of his said Majesties Reigne of England & I. for and in consideration that william Bradford Esq. and his Asotiats had at their owne proper cost and charges Planted and Inhabited a towne called by the name of New Plimouth in New England aforesaid, And for their better encouragmet, to proceed in soe pious a work (illegible) tending to the propogation of Religion and the great incouragement of Trade to his Majesties Realmes and advancement to the Publick, Plantation, the said Councill by their Patent or grant, under their common Seale Signed, by the Right Honourable Robert Earle of warwick, President of said Councill, bearing Date, the thirteenth day of January in the fifth year of the Reigne of our Late Souvereigne Lord King Charles the first, Annoq Dom 1629 did give grant infeoffe assigne and confirme unto the said william Bradford his heirs Asotiates and assigns for ever, all that part of New England in America aforesaid, and Tract, or tracts of Land that lye within or betwene a certaine rivolet or Rundlett there comonly caled Chasset alias Conihasset towards the North, and the River commonly called Narraganset River towards the South, and the great western Ocean towards the East, and between and within a straight line Directly extending up into the maine Land towards the west from the mouth of the said River, called Narraganset River, to the utmost limits or Bounds of a country or place in New England commonly called Pokanoeket alias Sowamset westward, and another like straight line extending itselfe, directly from the mouth of the said River, Cohasset alias Conihasset towards the west, So far up into the maine Land westward as the utmost limits of the said place or Country comonly called Pokanoent alias Sawomset Do extend &c And all lands, Rivers, waters Havens &c Situate lying and being, or arising within or betwene the said limits and bounds or any of them, And thereof was put into peaceable and quiet Possession as in and (by) the said grant and Indorsment thereon Referente thereto being had will more fully and at large appeare: and whereas the said william Bradford with the advice of his asotiats, in the yeare of our Lord God one thousand six hundred and fourety did grant unto, Miss Elizabeth Poole and mr Nicholas Street and to such others as they should Assotiat to themselves, a tract of Land for a Plantation or Township, formerly called by natives Cohamet upwards of fouerty yeares seme settled and Planted, Now called and knowne by the name of Taunton, Lying in the County of Bristol in New England aforesaid [And whereas alsoe the proprietors of said Town of Taunton have seme obtained divers inlargments and additions from the Ginirall Court

at Plimouth [the members whereof where the Assotiats of my said Honoured father] and from their neighbouring Townes, by agreements with them, with the allowance of said Assotiats, as appears by records, Al which being perealls of the lands contained within the Limits and Bounderys expressed in the afore resighted Patent or grant from the Councell Established at Plimouth in the County of Devon, [for the Plantin Rueling ordering and Gouering of New England in America] and to the said william Bradford his heirs asotiats and asignes] together with power duly to dispose of said lands for the ends aforesaid to such as should be admitted inhabitants and proprietors with them in said Towne of Taunton, and such other priviledges and immunities as are usialy granted to the inhabitants and proprietors of other Townes, within this his Majesties most anciant Collony of New Plimouth in New England aforesaid, for the more perpetluer making and better confirmation whereof, Now know yee that I william Bradford of New Plimouth in the County of Plimouth in the Colony of New Plimouth in New England aforesaid, Son and heire of the above named william Bradford Esqr: Deceased, as well in performance of the true intente and meaning of the said william Bradford my father in and by the said grant, and for the ends above mentioned, and for Divers other good causes and considerations, we at *this* time especially moveing, have granted. remised. realeased. and for ever quitt claimed, and by these presints for me and my heirs, doe grant, remise. release and for ever quitt claim unto: mr John Poole, mr Samuell Danforth, Richard williams, walter Deane, Garge Macey, Hezekiah Hoar, william Harvey, Henry Andrews, John Deane, Giles Gilbert, James Walker Senior, Shadrach wilbore, Phillip King & Joseph wilbore, John Cob, John Hall Petter Pitts, Samuell williams, Nathaniell williams, Joseph williams, Samuell Hall the son of Samuell Hall Deceased, Joseph Hall, Edward Rews Exexitrix, Isack Negus, Increase Robinson, Thomas Farwell, Thomas Caswell Senior, James Leonard Junior, John Smith Senior, James Philips, John Richmond, william Paull, Jonah Austin, william withrell Senior, william withrell Jun: John withrell, Robert Crosman Jun: John Briant, Richard Stephens, Mary Street, Joseph willis, Eliazer Gilbert, Thomas Gilbert, Malachi Holloway, John Smith Jun: Samuell Smith, James Burt, the Asignes of Richard Burt Deceased, James Tisdill, John Tisdill, Joseph Tisdill, James Walker Jun; Petter walker, Thomas Harvey Jun: John Crosman, Samuell Thrasher, John Hathway, Isack Deane, Joseph Leonard, John woodward, John Macomber Jun: Joseph Staple, Samuell Deane, Samuell Stasie, John Hodges, the sons of Aron Knap Deceased, Henry Hodges, Richard Godfree Sen: Thomas Lincon Sen: John Lincon, Samuell Lincon, George Watsons Asignes, Robert Crosman Sen: Robert Thornton, James Leonard Sen: John Turner, Thomas Leonard, Edward Bobit, Elekanah Bobit, Samuell Holloway, Jonathan Briggs, Nicholas White

Sen: mr George Shoves Asignes, George Gooding & John Edy [who are such proprietors who in said Taunton are called and owned purchasers of the old Township, some haveing two or three purchase rights, some one purchase right, and some but halfe a purchase right, and some less: [and unto] Richard williams, walter Deane, George Macey, James Walker, Joseph wilbore, william Harvey, Thomas Leonard, John Turner, Heniry Andrews, John Cob, George Hall, John Hall, Samuell Hall, James Leonard Sen: Nathaniell williams, Thomas williams, Nicholas whit Sen, Nicholas whit Jun: Hezakiah Hoar, Alice Deane, Israel Deane, Robert Crosman, Shadrach wilbore, Thomas Caswell, John Macomber, John Smith, Edward Rew, John Parker, Samuell Paul, Thomas Lincon Sen: Thomas Harvey the elder, Nathaniell Thayer, Thomas Lincon Jun: Petter Pitts, Jonah Anstin Sen: John Richmond, Samuell williams, Christopher Thrasher, m^{rs} Jane Gilbert, George watson, Samuell Smith, James Burt, Richard Burt, John Tisdil Sen; John Tisdil Jun: James Philips, Edward Bobit, John Hathway, Jonathan Brigs, Increase Robinson, John Briant, Thomas Harvey Jun & mr George Shove [Some of the above said proprietors in the said Towne of Tauton and all proprietors in the tract of land, called the North purchase, which shall hereafter be expressed in this Instrument, and as appears by Deed from the Colonys Agents, the Associats of my said Honourred Father, Dated June the six one thousand six hundred sixty eight, upon record, and unto] James walker, John Richmond, william Brenton Esq^r. List: George Macey, Richard williams, walter Deane, william Harvey, mr George Shove, Heniry Andrews, Giles Gilbert, Hezekiah Hoar, John Hall, John Macomber Sen: James Philips, John Hathway, John Deane, Joseph wilbore, Aron Knap, Petter Pitts, Thomas Gilbert, Richard Burt, John Tisdil Sen: Cristipher Thrasher, John Poole, Edward Bobit, Edward Rew, Thomas Caswell, william withrell, Heniry Andrews Jun: Samuell Pitts, Samuell williams, Nicholas whit Sen: Samuell Hall, James Leonard Senior Thomas Leonard, Nathaniel williams, Robert Thornton, Thomas Deane, Joseph williams, John Tisdill Jun: James Tisdill, Israel Deane, Jonathan Brigs, Thomas Lincon Sen: Thomas Lincon Jun: John Turner, Frances Smith, James Burt, Jonah Austin Sen; George watson, Richard Stasie, John Hodges, Shadrach wilbore, John Smith Sen: Thomas Harvey Sen: Samuell Smith, Robert Crosman Sen: william Paul, Samuell Holloway, Malachi Holloway, Ester Golup, Joseph Hall, Mary Street, Nathaniel Thayer, Increase Robinson, Thomas Harvey Jun: Isack Deane, Ezra Deane, James walker Jun: Petter walker, Israel Thrasher, Samuell Macey, Nicholas whit Jun; Jarit Talbut, James Leonard Jun, John Lincon, Richard Stephens, Thomas williams, william withrell, Jun: Richard Brigs, John Smith Jun, Thomas Amsbery, John Macomber Jun & Joseph willis [who are proprietors of the Tract of land, called the South Purchas, mentioned alsoe in this Instrument, as

appears by Deeds and Court records [and unto] the Asignes of m^r George Shove, James walker Sen: James Tisdill, walter Deane, william Harvey, Richard williams, and william Paul [who are the properietors of Asonet neck, mentioned alsoe in this Instrument as appers by their Deeds Respectinly which they received of m^r Constant Southworth, the Collonies Tresurer which deeds are recorded in the Court records] And to their heirs and asignes forever in the behalfe, and to the use of themselves and others the allowed inhabitants and properietors of said Towne of Taunton, in their and every of their, full and peaceable possession, and Seisen, now being acording to their and every of their comon and genirall and Respective Interest and to their and every of their heirs and asignes for ever, in all such estate right title interest possession and demand what soever, which I the said william Bradford, had now have or ought to have of in or to all, or singular the messuages lands Teniments growndes: soiles, matters, rivers, Havens, creeks, ports, fishings, heriditaments, Royalties, minerals, projects priviledges and Comodities what-soever, Scituate Lying and being, arising, hapning or acruing, or which shall arise, happen, or acrne, in or within the limits and boundes of said Township of Taunton, and alsoe within that Traet of land, comonly called and knowne in said Taunton by the name of the north Purchas, both said, Towneship, and said north Purchas as they, have both been, anciantly stated and set forth, and are discribed, and bounded as followeth (the Township Takin in all Asonet neck which belongs to some partienlar men as it above expresed, Takin in alsoe all the meadow lands, there upon and about it, and on the other side of Asonit baye, and from the northerly end of said neck, to run fouer miles East and by South by Free Towne Lyine, to a forked tree standing close by Asonit River, with stones laying about it, and from said tree, to run north and by East to a black oake marked with the letter M: on the Sontherly side and the letter T on the norther side, by the path side, leadin from Asonit to Middleberey, and from said oake, to run by the path to Baiting Brook soe called, to a great marked white oake, by the brooke and from said white oake to run Northerly on a line, Betwene Taunton and Middlebery, and soe running along by some Indians lands at Titicut, and soe to Taunton Great River at Titicut and over said River upon a line agreed on, betwene Taunton and Bredgwater Agents, To a heap of stones on Rockie plaine [soe called] on the north westward side of the Rhode that leads from Taunton to Bredgwater, and from said heap of stones, upon a line, to the Southerly end of Nuncketetest pond to a great white oake tree, and from thence North weest to a great stake with a heap of stones about it, and from said stake on a north line, until it meete with an East and by South Line, which runs Betwene said Towneship of Taunton, and the above said North Purchas, [and from the Southernmost point of Asonit neck, to run over Taunton Great River west and by North, to

the mouth of a Cove called Broad Cove, and soe Running along by the Lower side of said Cove, as to take in all the meadowes, unto a heape of stones near the head of said Cove, and from thence to run weest and by North fouer miles, and from the end of said fouer miles to run thence north and by East, untill it extends as fare as to the end, of the fouer miles, that did run from the Two marked trees, near the three mile River, which was the first line of the Township first grant [so taking in the tract of Land called, the South Purchase which three mile River, and then the three mile River, is the boundes, betwene the old Township, and the South Purchase, until it come to the Great River, which is the bounds alsoe, of said South Purchase downe to Broad Cove as above said, as appeares by Deeds, and Court Records as above said] and from the Exstent of the last mentioned fouer miles, the old towne line, to Run eight miles; North and by weest, and from the end of the said eight miles to run upon an East and by South line, untill it meet with the afore said bounds, between Taunton and Bredgewater, and the aforesaid north Purchase, And the bounds of the said North Purchase are as Followeth. Begining on the North and by weest, at the bounds of the Lands belonging to the Towne of Rehoboth, and to be bounded on the North-erly side by the Masachuset Line untill it come to beare with the westerne bounds of the Towne of Bredgewater, and soe from the Masachuset line, to the boundes of Taunton Towne Ship, and thence by a weesterly line, untill it meet with the the bounds of Rehoboth above said, and soe to follow the said bounds of Rehoboth, untill it cometh to the bounds, first mentioned upon the Masachuset line, the proprietie of of which said North Purchase belongeth only to some of the men, whose names are above named, as appeares by Deed as above said, Soe that is to say, that I the said william Bradford nor my heirs from hence forth shall or may have or Claime any right title estate interest or demand of in or to the said Premises, or any part of them, but thereof shall for ever here after be barred and excludud by these presents, know yee further alsoe, that I the said william Bradford for the ends and Considerations aforesaid have approved, and by these presents, doe for me and my heirs, soe much as in me lieth Ratifie and confirme, unto the said, mr John Poole, mr Samuell Danforth, Richard williams, James walker Senor, william Paull, and John Tisdill, and to all the rest above named, and to other the allowed Inhabitants of said Towne of Taunton, and to the proprietors of the North Purchase aforesaid to their, and every of their full and peaceable possession and Seisen, and according to their and every of their respective Intrest in each tract of land, and to their and every of their heirs and Asignes for ever, all and Singular, the afore said lands, and other the premises, and their and every of their, apperfinances within the said boundes and limits, according to their, and every and each of their, comon or perticular, severall and Respective in-

trest in the said Premises, or any part or percall thereof, To HAVE AND TO HOLD to the said mr John Poole. mr Samuell Danforth. Richard williams. James walker Sen: william Paull and James Tisdil, and to all the rest above named, according to their, and every of their respective interest in each Tract of land as above specified, and their and each, and every of their heirs and assignes forever, in the behalfe, and to the use of themselves and others the allowed Inhabitants, and proprietors of said Township of Taunton, and the proprietors, of said North Purchase, and to their, and to each and every and each of their, heirs and assignes for ever, in manner and forme following, that is to say: to hold in comon all such lands, within the bounds and limits aforesaid respectively, to the proprietors of each tract of Land Respectively, as yet doth lye in Comon, and undivided or wast lands, or for herbage, feed for catill fire wood and Timber or such like comon use, together with such Comon priviledges and Comodities belonging thereunto, and every part thereof shall and may from time to time, and at all times be ordered given granted disposed and assigned as the Major Part of the proprietors of each tract of land in comunitie Respectively shall see meet and convenient, as formerly have bene accustomed. and to hold in Severally, and not jointly, to each one and every of them, all and every such messuages, Teniments and lands, as each or any of them are severally and particularly possessed of by vertue of any grant from the said william Bradford my Father or his Associats, or from the Comitee Impowered to dispose of said lands, or from the proprietors of said Towne, or obtained by gift or purchase from any to whom any such grant, hath beene heretofore made, and to each and every their heirs and assignes for ever, and to the only proper use and behoofe of them, and each and every of their heirs and assignes, Respectively forever, To be holden by his Majesties as of his mannor of East Greenwich in the County of Lent in the Realme of England in the free and comon Socakage and not in Capite nor Knight, servaire, yeilding and paying to our Sovereigne Lord the King his heirs and assignes for ever, on fifth part of the Oare of the mines of Gold and silver, and one other fifth part thereof to the said President and Council, which shall be had, possessed and obtained, within the Limits aforesaid, for all services and demands whatsoever, as is expressed, in said Leters Patents, or grants of the said Council In & I the said william Bradford, and my heires all and Singular the said Premises with the appertinances, unto the afore said, mr John Poole mr Samuell Danforth Richard williams, James walker Sen: william Paull and James Tisdil, and to all the rest above named, as is above mentioned, their and every of their heirs and assignes Respectively, against me the said william Bradford and my heirs, will forever hereafter, warrand and defend, by these Presents.

In witness whereof I have here unto set my hand and Seal this ninth day of June Anno Domini one thousand six hundred Eighty and nine

and in the first year of Reign of King William and Queen Mary over England &c.

Memorandum the word (by) over the tenth line and the word (this) over the twentyeth line and Philip King in the margent against the twenty second line and the word (Town) over the sixty third line were Interlined before the sealing and delivering hereof

William Bradford. [seal]

Signed Sealed and Delivered

In the presence of

John Pollard

Richard Haskins

Phillip Mason.

The within and above mentioned
william Bradford appears this
16th of August 1689 and
acknowledges this Instrument
to be his act & deed.

before me

Thos Hinckley Gov.

APPENDIX R.

[Page 46.]

The history of the South Purchase was in this wise: By an old Colonial law no person was allowed to buy land of the Indians except by leave of the General Court, and on July 2d, 1667, the Court gave permission to Richard Williams and others to buy land on the west side of the River in these words:

"The Court haue granted vnto some ancient freemen lineing in Taunton, viz: Richard Williams, Walter Dean, George Hall, Allis Dean, the wife of John Dean deceased, Mr. John Poole, Peter Pitts, James Walker and Henery Andrewes, that they shallhaue some suplyes of land upon the west side of Taunton Riuer, if not already granted to any other: or some other place if it may be obtained."

(4 Ply. Col. Rec. p. 160.)

Within two years the town took action in the matter and passed the following vote:

"This 6th of May, 1669. The town hath voted and chosen Lieut. George Masy, Henry Andrews and Joseph Wilbore to go down to Philip Sachem and confir with him about buying of ye land from the Three Mile River down as far as Storehouse Point, as far as the meadows, and to buy it of ye Sachem as far as they can into ye woods from ye Great River, and what bargain the above said men shall make with him the town doth engage to perform, and the above said men are to go down about the aforesaid design the next week."

In the winter of 1671 the town passed this vote :

"This 18th day of December, 1671. It is voted and agreed upon by ye town that the selectmen now in being are empowered to use the best of their discretion for ye procuring of ye land down ye river from ye Three Mile River to Store House Point, that it may be confirmed to our township by the Court."

(The selectmen then "in being" were George Macy, Richard Williams, Walter Dean, James Walker and William Harvey.)

In the following March, the General Court declared

"That James Walker and John Richmond are authorized by the Court to purchase the land of the Indians in the behalfe of the towne of Taunton, lying on the west syde of Taunton River, from the Three Mile River downe to a place called the Store House." (5 Ply. Col. Rec. p. 88.)

This was followed by another vote of the town as follows :

"This 2d day of September 1672, The purchasers or free inhabitants of Taunton being in a probable way to purchase a certain tract of land lyeing down ye Great River, of Philip Sachem, therefore for the better managing of ye purchase of ye said land, and for the procuring of firm deeds from ye said Sachem and for ye looking to ye payments of ye purchase of the said land the above said purchasers hath chosen this Committee: William Brenton, Esq., Walter Dean, William Harvey, Lieut. George Macy, James Walker, John Richmond, Richard Williams."

This Committee immediately attended to their duty and soon obtained a deed from Philip; in consideration of 143 pounds, of a tract three miles long on the Great River, and extending westerly four miles, beginning at the mouth of Three Mile River, a copy of which is as follows :

"To all Christian people to whom these presents shall come, I Philip alias Metacum, Chief Sachem of Pokanoket, in the Colony of New Plymouth, in New England, send Greeting: Know ye, that I, the said Philip, alias Metacum, for and in consideration of one hundred and forty-

three pounds in current pay to my content to me in hand paid before the sealing and delivery hereof, by William Brenton, Esquire, James Walker, William Harvey, Walter Dean, Richard Williams, and John Richmond, all of the Town of Taunton, in the Colony above said, wherewith I, the said Philip, alias Metacum, do acknowledge myself fully satisfied, contented and paid and thereof and of every part and parcel thereof do hereby exonerate, acquit, discharge and release the said William Brenton, Esq., James Walker, William Harvey, Walter Dean, Richard Williams, and John Richmond, their heirs, executors, administrators, and assigns, forever, have given, granted, bargained, sold, enfeoffed, aliened, and confirmed, and do by these presents fully, freely and absolutely give, grant, bargain, sell, enfeoffe, alien, make over and confirm unto the said William Brenton, James Walker, William Harvey, Walter Dean, Richard Williams, and John Richmond, to them and their associates and to their and every of their heirs, executors, administrators and assigns forever, a certain tract of land situate, lying and being southerly from the town of Taunton aforesaid, containing three English miles one way, and four English miles the other way, beginning at the three mile river (so called) alias Nonestecomeek, and is from said river to range three miles south and by west, and from the extent of the said three miles to range four miles west and by north from the Great River (so called) into the woods, and from the extent of that four miles to range north and by east until it meet with the ancient bounds of Taunton aforesaid, and bounded eastwardly by the aforesaid Great River, (so called) with all timber and wood, meadows, creeks, coves, springs, ponds, mines, minerals, and all and singular the privileges, easements, commodities, appurtenances, and immunities of what kind soever thereunto belonging or in any way appertaining, and in particular the privilege of said great river for the navigation of any sort of vessels, bigger or lesser, and all other the privileges thereof;

To Have and to Hold the said tract of land and all and every the privileges and appurtenances as is before expressed, and all the right, title and interest which he the said Philip, alias Metacum, now hath or can or may hereafter have, either by himself or his heirs, executors, administrators, assigns, or successors, unto them, the said William Brenton, James Walker, William Harvey, Walter Dean, Richard Williams, and John Richmond, and their associates, and to their and any of their heirs, executors, administrators and assigns, and unto the proper use and behoof of them forever, to be holden according to the tenor of East Greenwich in his Majestie's County of Kent, in free socage and not in capita nor by knight's service; and the said Philip doth for himself, his heirs, executors, administrators, successors, and assigns, hereby utterly disclaim and renounce all former right, title, interest or demand in or unto the said tract or any part or parcel thereof, or to anything there-

unto belonging, and doth by these presents acknowledge the above bargained premises to be the true and proper estate of the said William Brenton, James Walker, William Harvey, Walter Dean, Richard Williams and John Richmond, and their associates, and their heirs, executors, administrators and assigns, that he, the said Philip, alias Metacum, doth further for himself, his heirs, executors, administrators, successors, and assigns, promise and engage with and unto the said William Brenton, James Walker, William Harvey, Walter Dean, Richard Williams, and John Richmond, and their associates, and to their and every of their heirs, executors, administrators and assigns, that he, the said Philip, alias Metacum, is the true, sole and proper owner of the said tract of land and of every part thereof, and of all and every of the easements, privileges, and commodities thereunto belonging, immediately before the sealing and delivery hereof, and hath in himself good right and lawful authority to alienate and sell the same, and that the said land, with the privileges and appurtenances aforesaid, is free and clear, and freely and clearly acquitted and discharged from all former gifts, grants, bargains, sales, forfeitures, attachments, judgments, executions, mortgages and incumbrances whatsoever from the beginning of the world to this day, and the said bargained premises to warrant and defend from or against any person or persons claiming, or that shall or may hereafter claim any right, title or interest, in or unto the same or any part or parcel thereof, from, by or under him, the said Philip, alias Metacum, or his heirs, executors, administrators, successors or assigns, whereby the said William Brenton, James Walker, William Harvey, Walter Dean, Richard Williams and John Richmond and their associates or either of them, or either of their heirs, executors, administrators or assigns, shall or may be ejected or evicted out of the same or any part thereof, or molested in the quiet and peaceable possession and enjoyment thereof: and further, the said Philip, alias Metacum, doth for himself, his heirs, executors, administrators, successors and assigns, covenant and promise to and with the said William Brenton Esquire, James Walker, William Harvey, Walter Dean, Richard Williams and John Richmond and their associates, and their and every of their heirs, executors, administrators and assigns, that he the said Philip, alias Metacum, upon reasonable and lawful demand, shall and will do and perform, or cause to be done and performed, any and all such further act or acts, whether by acknowledging this deed of sale, or any other kind whatsoever, that shall or may be for the more fully completing and confirming the afore-bargained premises unto the said William Brenton, James Walker, William Harvey, Walter Dean, Richard Williams and John Richmond and their associates, and to their and every of their heirs, executors, administrators and assigns according to the true intent hereof and the colony aforesaid.

In witness whereof, I, the said Philip, alias Metacum to these presents have put my hand and seal the twenty-eighth day of Septem-

ber, anno Domini one thonsand, six hundred and seventy-two, and in the twenty-fourth year of the reign of our Sovereign, Charles the Second, King of Great Britain, France and Ireland.

The mark of the above said Philip, alias Metacum,

PHILIP **P** alias METACUM. |seal|

Signed sealed and delivered in presence of The mark of
JOSEPH WILBORE, CAPTAIN **W** ANNAWAN.

JOHN WINCHCOME. The mark of
THOMAS PAYCANUT. UKAMPHOONETT, **T**

The mark of The mark of
THOMAS **T** INDIAN WINNASHUM **P** NIMROD.
alias SAUKSUET. CHEENAUCTION, **A**

This deed was acknowledged by Philip, alias Metacum, this 1 day of October, 1672, before me,

CONSTANT SOUTHWORTH, Assist.

This deed is recorded according to the order of Nathaniel Morton, Secretary to the Court for the jurisdiction of New Plymouth. See great book of records, enrolled Folio 227.

[And see Ply. Col. Rec. of Deeds. Vol. III. p 246 : Prop. Rec. of South Purchase, in Dighton Town Clerk's office, p. 3.]

This deed though dated September 28, was not acknowledged and delivered until Oct. 1, and on the same day Philip in consideration of 47 pounds, conveyed to Constant Southworth, another strip on the southerly side of the first tract, one mile wide on the Great River and extending four miles westerly from the river; a copy of which is as follows:

“ Know all men by these presents, that whereas I, Philip, allies Metacum, Chief Sachem of Pakanauket, in the government of New Plymouth have ingaged and mortgaged four miles square of land southwardly of Taunton bounds to Mr. Constant Southworth, Treasurer, and having already given a deed of three miles in breadth and four miles in length of the said land unto some of Taunton, Know also by these presents, that I, the said Philip, do by these presents, bargain, sell, give, grant and make over unto the said Mr. Constant Southworth, his heirs and assigns forever, the other mile in breadth and four mile in length, adjoining to the three miles in breadth and four miles in length already sold to Taunton men, which one mile in breadth and four miles in length above

mentioned, I, the said Philip, for and in consideration of forty-seven pounds in hand payd by the said Constant Southworth before the sealing & delivery hereof, whereof, I, the said Philip, do acknowledge the receipt, and myself therewith fully satisfied and payed, & thereof doe by these presents fully, absolutely and clearly exonerate, acquit and discharge the said Mr. Constant Southworth, his heirs, executors and assigns forever: To Have and to Hold the said mile in breadth and four miles in length, with all and singular the rights, privileges and appurtenances within and upon the same or anyways thereunto belonging, to the said Mr. Constant Southworth, his heirs and assigns forever, To him and their use, profit and behoof forever, without any trouble, claim or molestation from, by, or under me, or by my procurement. Furthermore, I, the said Philip, do hereby covenant and engage to and with the said Mr. Constant Southworth his heirs, and assigns, that I have good right, full power and lawful authority, in my own name to give, grant, bargain, sell, convey and confirm the above mentioned mile of land in breadth, and four miles in length as aforesaid, and that it shall and may be lawful from time to time and at all times hereafter for him and them to have, hold, occupy, enjoy and quietly to possess the same, and by me be saved and kept harmless, and free and clear from all charges, troubles and suits in law, or any incumbrances that may arise by any person or persons laying any just claim thereunto or to any part thereof, from, by or under me, or by my procurement; furthermore if it appear that there be anything yet further to be done for the confirmation of the bargained premises unto the said Mr. Constant Southworth, his heirs and assigns, I do hereby promise and engage to perform the same.

In witness whereof, I have heremto set my hand and seale the first day of October in the year of our Lord one thousand six hundred and seventy-two.

PHILIP, allies METACUM, his **P** marke [seal]
Signed, sealed & delivered
in the presence of,

THOMAS LEONARD.

HUGH COLE,

The **O** marke of WINNASHUM, allies NIMROD,

The **T** marke of WOANCKOMPAWHAN,

The **W** marke of CAPT. ANNAWAN.

This deed of sale was acknowledged by Philip, alias Metacum, this 1 day of October, 1672, before me

CONSTANT SOUTHWORTH, Assist.

This deed was acknowledged this 1: 9: 72:

before me JOHN ALDEN, Assistant.

This deed is recorded according to order of Mr. Nathaniel Morton, Secretary of the Court for the jurisdiction of New Plymouth. See great book of evidences of land enrolled, Folio 249. "

(Ply. Col. Rec. of Deeds Vol. III, p. 268. Dighton Prop. Rec. p. 7.)

Southworth immediately assigned this last deed to the same Committee mentioned in the first deed (for whom doubtless he acted in taking it) by an assignment on the back thereof, in these words:

"Know all men by these presents, that I, Constant Southworth, Treasurer of the Colonie of New Plymouth, do by these presents, for me, my heirs, executors, administrators and assigns, and in the behalf of the Colonie of New Plymouth aforesaid, assign, assure, enfeof and confirm unto Mr. William Brenton, William Harvey, James Walker, Richard Williams, Walter Deane, Lient. George Macy and John Richmond committee of the town of Taunton, unto them in the behalf of themselves and their heirs, and in the behalf and for the only proper use and behoof of the free inhabitants of the said town of Taunton and their heirs, the above written deed, with all my right, title and interest, that I, the said Constant Southworth, Treasurer, have therein, and the said Colonie of Plymouth hath therein, from us and every of us, and our heirs, executors and administrators, To them the said Committee and Inhabitants of the town of Taunton and their and every of their heirs & assigns forever.

CONSTANT SOUTHWORTH, Treasurer.

Signed in the presence of us,

NATHANIEL MORTON.

BENJAMIN CHURCH.

This assignment was acknowledged by Mr. Constant Southworth, Treasurer, this sixth of the first month 72—73

before me JOHN ALDEN, Assistant.

(Ply. Col. Rec. of Deeds, Vol. III. p. 268 and see Dighton Prop. Rec. p. 9.)

The consideration paid for these two deeds of the four mile tract thus amounted to 190 pounds; but there was a prior mortgage on the whole from Philip to the Colony, which on the 27th of the 6th month (Sept.) Constant Southworth, Treasurer, assigned to William Harvey and John Richmond in behalf of the town for the sum of 83 pounds due thereon, as appears by the following transfer; no record of the mortgage itself being found;

PRENCE GOV'R.

"Plymouth this 27th of the 6th, 1672. These are to whom it may concern, that Willam Harvey and John Richmond, of Taunton, haue ginen me bill vnder theire hands, for the sune of eighty three pounds, which was due from Phillip, the Sachem, to the Colonie, for which sune said Phillip engaged to mee foure miles square of land downe Taunton Riner and next vnto Tamnton bounds, which engagement or mortgage, I heerby make ouer vnto the abovesaid Willam Harvey and John Richmond, in the behalfe of the Towne, for theire securitie for the aforsaid bills vnder theire hands made vnto mee; and for the truth of this I haue subscribed my hand the day and yeare aboue written.

CONSTANT SOUTHWORTH, Treasurer.

(See Old Col. Rec. Court Orders, Vol. 5, Part I, Page 72.)

If therefore, this 83£ be added to the 190£ paid directly to Philip, it would seem that the South Purchase cost the purchasers 273£ in all.

This whole tract four miles square, was therefore, Nov. 26, 1672, conveyed by said Committee to the parties interested, by a declaratory deed of that date of which this is a copy. (Taunton Prop. Records, Vol. IV, p. 232.)

"Know all men to whom it may concern, that whereas, we, William Brenton Esq., Richard Williams, Walter Dean, James Walker, William Harvey & John Richmond hath through difficulty obtained of Philip, Sachem, and of Mr. Constant Southworth Treasurer for the Colony of New Plymouth, a tract of land containing four miles square lying and situate below the Three Mile River (so called) for themselves and their associates, as appears by deeds, we the abovesaid William Brenton, Esq., Richard Williams, Walter Dean, James Walker, William Harvey and John Richmond, do by these presents declare to be our associates and to be equally interested in the abovesaid four miles of land, the now living free inhabitants of the town of Taunton whose names are underwritten, always provided that all these associates shall truly and faithfully pay or cause to be paid their full proportions to the purchase and all other necessary charges expended in or about the abovesaid land as they shall be appointed both to the sum and the species, and time and place of payment, but if any of those associates shall refuse or fail to pay their full proportion to all payments as abovesaid, they shall lose their right and interest to the abovesaid land & it shall be lawfully forfeited to the remainder of the associates. 3dly. That these associates shall not make any alteration of their parts or interest in the abovesaid land to any foreigner, except first approved by the town of Taunton.

The names of ye Associates.

George Shove.	George Macy.	Henry Andrews.
Giles Gilbert.	Hezekiah Hoar.	John Hall.
John Macomber sr.	James Phillips.	John Hathaway.
John Dean.	Joseph Wilbore.	Aaron Knap.
Peter Pitts.	Thomas Gilbert.	Richard Burt,
John Tisdale sen'r	Christopher Thrasher.	John Briant.
Mr. John Pool.	John Cob.	Edward Bobit.
Edward Rew.	Thomas Caswell.	William Wetherell.
Henry Andrews Jr.	Samuel Pitts.	Samuel Williams.
Nicholas White sen'r.	Samuel Hall.	James Leonard sen'r.
Thomas Leonard.	Nathaniel Williams.	Robert Thornton.
Thomas Dean.	Joseph Williams.	John Tisdale Jr.
James Tisdale.	Israel Dean.	Jonathan Briggs.
Thomas Linkon sen'r.	Thomas Linkon Jr.	John Turner.
Francis Smith.	James Burt.	Jonah Austin sen'r.
George Watson.	Richard Stacy.	John Hodges.
Shadrach Wilbore.	John Smith sen'r.	Thomas Harvey sen'r.
Samuel Smith,	Robert Crossman sen'r.	William Paull.
Samuel Holloway.	Malachi Holloway.	Ester Gollop.
Joseph Hall.	Mary Street.	Nathaniel Thayer.
Increase Robinson.	Thomas Harvey Jr.	Isaac Dean.
Ezra Dean.	William Hailstone.	James Walker Jr.
Peter Walker.	Israel Thrasher.	Samuel Macy.
Nicholas White Jr.	James Bell.	Jared Talbut.
James Leonard Jr.	John Linkon.	Stephen Caswell.
Richard Stephens.	Thomas Williams.	William Wetherell.
Jonah Astin, Jr.	Richard Briggs.	Edward Cobb.
John Smith Jun'r.	John Macomber Jr. ye son of John Macomber.	
Aaron Knap Jr.	John Eddy.	Thomas Armsbee.
Joseph Willis.		

"These persons named we acknowledge to be our associates upon the condition above written. November 26: 1672."

Walter Dean.

Richard Williams.

William Harvey.

James Walker.

John Richmond."

Here are *eighty-seven* persons named as probable owners in the South Purchase, but apparently they did not all comply with the conditions mentioned in the deed; for in 1683-4 another declaratory deed was made to only seventy-seven of the above list, as follows, viz :

The Committee's declaration of, or deed, to their Associates.

"This present writing declareth to all to whome it may come or concerne, That whereas, ye Honoured Court of Plymouth, in New England, granted to James Walker, Sen'r, and John Richmond, of Taunton, in ye Colonie of Plymouth aforesaid, an order to purchase a tract of land of the Indians for the free Inhabitants of ye Township of Taunton aforesaid, as by ye records of ye said Court as may more fully appear, ye above sd tract of land is lying and being on ye west side of Taunton Great River, so-called, and for ye better managing of ye sd purchase, the free Inhabitants of Taunton aforesaid did add to ye aforesd James Walker and John Richmond, William Brenton, Esquire, Lieft. George Macey, Richard Williams, Walter Deane, and William Harvey, all of them Inhabitants of Taunton aforesaid, as a Committee to act for and in behalf of ye free inhabitants of Taunton aforesaid, that whatsoever this above named Committee, or the major part of them shall doe in or respecting ye premises aforesaid should stand firm and good, as by ye records of ye Town may at large appear, the above named Committee obtaining deeds for ye aforesd tract of land, under ye hand and seals of ye right proprietors thereof to be to ye abovesd Committee and their Associates, and to their heirs, executors, and assigns, the sd Committee declaring under their hands who might be their full Associates in all respects whatsoever in ye said tracts of land named in ye said deeds from Philip Sachem, alias Metacombe, and Mr. Constant Southworth, treasurer for ye Colony aforesd, dated ye 28th day of September, 1672, and its other deed ye first day of October, in year 1672, upon conditions inserted in ye records of said Towne, bearing date ye 6th December, 1672, as by ye records of ye said Towne may apper: Now, we, ye aforesd Committee do by these presents declare that these men whose names are underwritten, and none but these, are fully associated and as fully completely and firmly interested and entitled in ye above sd Tract of land, specified in ye above named deeds, as this above named Committee whose names are inserted in ye sd deeds, and as equally interested as it is already laid out by lott, and in that part of ye abovesd lands which shall or may be hereafter or may be hereafter divided by lott, firm and free to them and their heirs, executors administrators and assigns forever, acknowledging these and none but these, performed all conditions specified in ye said declaration bearing date December ye 6th, 1672 as abovesd; in confirmation hereof we, the major part of the abovesd Committee, have set to our hands under ye names of ye Associates this 18th of March, 1683-4"

Mr. George Shove,
Henry Andrews.
Mr. Giles Gilbert.

Israel Deane.
Jonathan Briggs.
John Turner.

Hezekiah Hoar.	Richard Stacey.
John Hall.	John Hodges.
John Macomber, Sr.	Shadrach Wilbore.
James Phillips.	John Smith, Sr.
John Hathaway.	Thomas Harvey, Sr.
John Dean.	Samuel Smith.
Joseph Wilbore.	Robert Crossman, Sr.
Aron Knapp.	William Paul.
Peter Pitts.	Samuel Holloway.
Thomas Gilbert.	Malachi Holloway.
Richard Burt.	Ester Gallop.
John Tisdale, Sr.	Joseph Hall.
Christopher Thrasher.	James Leonard, Jr.
John Poole.	John Lincoln.
Edward Bobbitt.	Richard Stephens.
Edward Rew.	Joseph Willis.
Thomas Caswell.	Mary Street.
William Witherell.	Nathaniel Thayer.
Henry Andrews, Jr.	Increase Robinson.
Samuel Pitts.	Thomas Harvey, Jr.
Nicholas White, Sr.	Isaac Deane.
Samuel Hall.	Ezra Deane.
James Leonard, Sr.	Thomas Williams.
Thomas Lincoln, Sr.	William Witherell Jr.
Thomas Lincoln, Jr.	Richard Briggs.
Francis Smith.	Samuel Williams.
James Burt.	James Walker, Jr.
Jonah Austin, Sr.	Peter Walker.
George Watson.	Israel Thrasher.
Thomas Leonard.	Samuel Macey.
Nathaniel Williams.	Nicholas White, Jr.
Robert Thornton.	Jared Talbot.
Thomas Deane.	John Smith, Jr.
Joseph Williams.	John Macomber, Jr.
John Tisdale, Jr.	Thomas Amesbery.
James Tisdale.	

The names of the Committee are these,—

GEORGE MACEY,	[seal]
JAMES WALKER,	[seal]
WALTER DEANE,	[seal]
JOHN RICHMOND,	[seal]

This 30th of December, 1684, ye Associates above named hath by vote chosen John Richmond and John Hathaway Sr. to see this writing

signed, sealed, and delivered before a magistrate, and also to see it recorded in ye Court Roles at Plymouth.

George Macey, James Walker, Walter Deane, and John Richmond, being ye major part of ye Committee above mentioned, appeared ye 20 March, 1684, and acknowledged this instrument to be their act and deed, before

JOHN WALLEY, Assist.

(Ply. Col. Rec. of Deeds, Vol. V. p. 302. Dighton Prop. Records, Vol. I. p. 15.)

Thus far the Taunton Purchases had all been made originally of the Indians, with or without a confirmatory deed from the Government. But Assonet Neck, a peninsular between the Great River and its Assonet Branch, about two miles long and less than one broad, the natives had always refused to sell, if indeed the white people were allowed to buy. It was seized by the Colony to pay the expenses of the Indian Wars, and in 1675 the lands "att Assonett Necke 200 pounds" were pledged by the General Court for the "incurragement of the souldiers sent forth on the first expedition against the Indians" as indicated by this order :

"Whereas the Court for the incurragement of the souldiers sent forth on the first expedition against the Indians, did order and engage, according to theire desire, that they should have theire pay in mony or lands; and noe way att psent appeering to raise monyes, doe, theirefore, for theire satisfaction, order, that certaine tracts of land be assigned, to the vallue of about one thousand pounds, to be deuided amongst them for the payment of theire respectiue ptes due vnto them; the said tracts assigned being att Showamett supposed to be neare the vallue of 500ⁿ, att Assonett Necke 200ⁿ, att Assowmasett, 200ⁿ, and about Agawaam and Sepecan, one hundred pound; soe as the said tractes shallbe more pticularly viewed and vallued as att mony prise, according to such indifferent rates as they might haue bine esteemed worth when the said order was made; and for the better effecting thereof, the Treasurer, Major Cudworth, Cornett Studson, and James Walker are desired and appointed to take view thereof and make reporte to the Court or counceell, for the settling of the same att such reasonable rates as to them shall seem meet, to be deuided to the said soldiers, or sold for theire pay or discharge of other nessesarie dues occasioned by this warr." (Ply. Col. Rec. Vol. V. p. 191.)

And in July 1677, the Court ordered said lands to be sold, and the proceeds divided among the several towns according to

their disbursements towards the war, and if not sold the lands themselves should be divided. (V Ply. Col. Rec. p. 240.)

On Nov. 12th 1677 Constant Southworth, the Treasurer of the Colony conveyed these Assonet lands to George Shove, James Walker, James Tisdale, Walter Deane, William Harvey and Richard Williams which Mr. Baylies says were divided among them, May 23d, 1680. This tract was, in July 1682, annexed to and made a part of Taunton by order of the General Court at Plymouth in these words :

“July 1682. This Court orders the land called Assonett Necke, being purchased by some of Taunton, that the said tract of land shalbe in the townshipp of Taunton.” (VI Ply. Col. Rec. p. 94.)

This was apparently the last addition of territory to Taunton. At the incorporation of Dighton in 1712, it was included in the boundaries of that town, but owing probably to its inaccessibility from Dighton it was added to Berkley in 1799 and still remains in that municipality. A copy of the act annexing it to Berkley follows.

CHAP. 35.—An act to set off part of the town of Dighton, in the County of Bristol and to annex the same to the town of Berkley, in said county.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, That all the lands called Assonet Neck, lying within the following bounds, now belonging to the town of Dighton, in the County of Bristol, viz.: Beginning at the head of a “Cove” called Smith’s Cove, a bound between the said towns of Dighton and Berkley, and running southwesterly by said Cove on the line between the towns aforesaid to the Great River; then running down stream by said river till it comes to Assonet River; then up stream on Assonet River till it comes to the line of the town of Freetown; then running northeasterly on said Freetown line till it comes to the line of said town of Berkley; then northwesterly on said Berkley line to the place of beginning at the head of the Cove, with the inhabitants thereon be, and the same are hereby set off from said town of Dighton, and annexed to said town of Berkley. Provided, that the inhabitants living on said tract of land shall be holden to pay their proportion of all legal taxes which have been assessed, ordered or voted to be laid on said Dighton by the inhabitants thereof or by the General Court in the same manner as though this Act had never passed.

In 1685 Gov. Hinckley made a confirmatory deed of all the lands then belonging to Taunton, the language of which clearly indicated that the first purchase of Taunton was made of Massasoit and is in these words :

“BE IT KNOWN TO ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS:

That whereas the Gouvernour & Associats of this his Maj'ties Colony being assembled together in General Court in the year of our Lord 1640 did grant unto Mrs. Elizabeth Pool, Mr. Nicholas Street & some others and to such as they should associate to them a tract of land for a plantation called by the natives Cohanet as by the Records of ye said Grant with ye explanation thereof doth and may appear which hath now for upwards of forty years been settled and brought into a Township called ——— known by ye name of Taunton. The first settlers, proprietors & some of ye inhabitants haveing also purchased ye sd. lands of Woosoquequen the then Chiefe Sachem of Mount Hope, and the Pokanet Countrey and since confirmed unto them by Philip his son as by Record doth appear and likewise have made several aditions of lands to ye said Township by purchase from said Philip by deeds under his hand and seal. And from Isbond another Indian with the Courts allowance, and from others of their neighbour English. All which appears upon ye Records of this Court. The lines and bounds of the whole Township as it now lyeth run and stated between them & other of the neighbour towns and plantations are as followeth, viz: first taking into said Township, Assonate Neck with the meadow land thereon & thereabout, Belonging to Taunton as appears by ye Agreement between Taunton agents & ye Freetown agents as appears also by Record. And so ye Township of Taunton to goo to and border upon the Township of ffreetown, And an east & by south line running between them four miles as by Court grant in Anno Domini 1640 and said Agreement and Record doth appear, until it come to Middlebury bounds and thence on a right line between Middlebury and Taunton townships to Basting Brook as by Record doth appear and from thence northerly on a line between Middlebury and Taunton Townships and between Taunton and ye land belonging to some Indians at Titicut until it meet with and come to ye bounds between s'd Taunton and Bridgewater on the westerly side of Taunton Great River, agreed upon by the Agents of the respective towns & so running from station to station on the bounds, between the townships of Taunton and Bridgewater as by the agreement between s'd agents doth appear upon Record, untill it meet an East by south line running between the Township of Taunton and a tract of land called the North purchass taking in to Taunton Township all the meadows on both sides Taunton River on the upper side of a line running from ye point of

Assonate neck next to Taunton River cross to the westwardly side said River on a west and by north point and from thence to the bounds between Taunton & Swanzey by the water side and so running from ye water side four miles west and by north and from the end of that four miles to run north and by east until it meet with the line of the Courts first grant, which was to run four miles west & by north from two marked trees at a place called the pond near three Mile River and from thence running north and by west eight miles and from thence upon an east and by south line untill it meet with the afores'd bounds between Taunton and Bridgewater and the aforesaid north purchass. All which lands both of upland, Marsh, meadow, Islands and Swamp, contained within the bounds and lines afores'd and all other lands and meadows above expressed at Assonate and both sides of Assonate Bay altho some of said meadows not falling within these lines yet the property of them doth belong to the proprietors of Taunton and the rest being within the afores'd lines are hereby declared to be of and belong unto the said township of Taunton, both jurisdiction of Township and soyle.

Now Know Yee that I, Thomas Hineckley Gov. of his Majesties Colony of New Plimouth afores'd for our Sovereign Lord, the King, by vertue of the power committed to me as well as by an Act and order made by William Bradford and his Associates assembled in Court Anno Dom. 1636 as by after Acts and orders of Court since made for ye more full assurance and absolute confirmation of all the said lands above mentioned both upland, Marsh, Meadows, Swamps, together with all the wood, trees, timber, underwood lyeing, standing or growing thereon or on any part or parcel thereof, & all rivers, brooks, creeks, coves, bays, ponds & waters therein or thereunto belonging, together with all rocks stones, mines, minnorals with all herbage, feedings rights, liberties, privileges & appurtenances thereto belonging or any wise appertaining as to other grants of Court have been accustomed unto the propriated Inhabitants and other proprietors altho. not inhabing the said Town of Taunton according to each person, his or her several respective rights title and interest therein. To have and to hold the same unto ye said proprietors respectively and to their respective heirs and assigns forever to be holden of his Majestic his heires and his successors as of his Manor, of East Greenwich in the County of Kent in the Realme of England in free & common soccage & not in capitie nor by Knts service, yielding and paying to our Sovereign Lord the King, his heirs and successors, the one-fifth part of the ore of gold and silver and one other fifth part to the president and council according to the form and

tenour of our grant. Granted in our Charter or Patent having hereunto fixed the common seal of ye Government. Given the tenth day of June Anno Dom. 1685 Annoqe R Rs. Jacobi secundi primo &c.

THOMAS HINCKLEY

Publique
and ye
seal.

Vera Copia extracted from the original & entered upon record March ye 28, 1709 by John Cary Recordr. [Bristol Co. No. District Land Records, Book V. Pages 479 & 480.]

By all these conveyances it would seem that Taunton had a perfect title to all the lands therein mentioned; but in 1689 Major William Bradford having made some claim to all this territory, the town paid him twenty pounds for his alleged rights, and he gave a deed of release and confirmation to John Poole and one hundred and three others, whose names are given in Vol. IV of Mr. Baylies' Memoirs, p. 81, and note.

There was therefore much foundation for the statement of John Richmond, son of the first purchaser, of that name, made in 1698, in a letter from him to Lieut.-Col. Elisha Hutchinson and others, dated Taunton, April 30, 1698, to be found in the State Archives, Vol. 113, p. 167, in which he says:—

“We bought it first of Woosamequin in the year '39 or '40 (this was in my minority) the sum paid I know not; then we bought all again of Philip, and paid him 16 pounds for it; then we bought that very spot of Josiah, he claiming some land there as appears by his deed, then we bought that spot again, with other land of Maj. Bradford, he had 20 pounds more,” etc.

By the foregoing deeds it appears that the South Purchase, was originally about four miles square; but a controversy soon arose between Taunton and Swansea as to the new territory, which in 1672 was referred to the General Court at Plymouth, which made this order thereon:

“In reference to a controversye depending betwixt the townes of Taunton and Swansea respecting the lands mortgaged to the Treasurer by Philip, the sachem, being by the said townes respectiue agents referred to this Court for the finall determination and issue thereof, whose pleas being heard and duly weyed, this Court orders, that the three miles first purchased, for which a deed hath been obtained of the said sachem,

shalbe and belonge vnto the towne of Taunton, and accounted within theire township, provided that Swansey men doe pay or cause to be payed theire full part of the payment made or to be made for the redeeming of the said lands mortgaged, or for the farther payment of the purchase vnto Philip, according both for specie and time equally proportionable to the other lands purchased as abouesaid; alsoe that Swansey men shall from time to time allow convenient ways to Taunton men vnto their meddows lying within the line of Swansey and timber to fence them, with such small stripes or points of vpland to run theire fence on as may be necessary for fencing the said meddowes, and that the said meddowes bee exempted from rates att Swansey." [Ply. Col. Rec. Vol. V, page 107.]

But this adjustment did not apparently prove satisfactory, for on the next July the agents of each town made a division by which "the property of the two miles abutting on the salt water shall belong to Taunton, and that the property of the other two miles, running into the woods shall appertain and belong to Swansey, the town of Swansey paying to Taunton thirteen pounds ten shillings, [Ply. Col. Deeds, Vol IV, p. 105] This accounts for the projection of a corner of Swansey into the southwest corner of Dighton, and which has since been called "The Two Mile Purchase."

APPENDIX S.

[Page 48.]

In the Spring of 1621, (March) Massasoit and the Colonists entered into an alliance, called the Peace of Plymouth, the terms of which were :

"*First*, That neither Massasoit, nor any of his, should injure nor do hurt to any of the Colony.

Secondly, That if any of his did any hurt to any of theirs, he should send the offender that they might punish him.

Thirdly, That if any thing was taken away from any of theirs, he should cause it to be restored, and they should do the like to his.

Fourthly, That if any did unjustly war against him, they would aid

him; and if any did war against them he should aid them.

Fifthly, That he should send to his neighbour confederates to certify them of this, that they might not wrong them, but might be likewise comprised in the conditions of Peace.

Sixthly, That when his men come to them on any occasion, they should leave their Arms, (viz.: Bows and Arrows) behind them.

Seventhly, That, so doing, the Sovereign Lord, King James, should esteem him as his friend and Ally."

[Neal's Hist. of New England. Vol. I. p. 98.]

This treaty renewed in March, 1639, was faithfully kept by Massasoit until his death in 1660 or 1661. His son Alexander succeeded him, but died in about a year afterward. Philip then became the Chief Sachem, and in August, 1662, renewed the treaty of his father with the Colonists, which is thus recorded in the Ply. Col. Rec. Vol. IV, p. 26.

"Att a Court of Assistants held att Plymouth on the sixth day August anno Dom. 1662 Philip, alias Mettacum, sachem of Pocanokett, making his appearance, did earnestly desire the continuance of that amitie and friendship that hath formerly bine between this goument and his deceased father and brother; and to that end the said Phillip doth for himselfe, and his successors desire that they may foreuer remain subject to the Kinge of England, his heires and successors, and doth faithfully promise and engage that hee will not att any time needlessly or vnjustly prouke or raise warr with any other of the natives, nor att any time giue, sell or any way dispose of any lands to him or them appertaining to any strangers, or to any without our priuity, consent, or appointment, but will in all things indeauor to carry peaceably and inoffenciuelly towards the English.

And the said Court did then alsoe expresse their willingness to continew with him and his abouesaid friendship, and doe on their pte promise that they will afoard them such friendly assistance by aduise and otherwise as they justly may; and wee will require our English att all times to carry frindly towards them. In witness whereof the said Phillip, the sachem, hath sett his hand, as alsoe his vnkell, and witnessed vnto by sundry other of his chieffmen.

The marke of **P** Phillip allis Mettacum, Sachem of Pocanokett.

The marke of Vncuppowett, Vnkell to the abouesaid sachem.

Witnesse John Sasomon,

The marke of Francis, the sachem Nausett.

The marke of Nimrod allis Pumpasa.

The marke of Punckquameck.

The marke of Aquetaquesh.

At the meeting in Taunton, in April, 1671, at which the Commissioners from Plymouth were Gov. Prince, Josias Winslow, and Constant Southworth, Philip signed this document:

“Taunton, April 10th, 1671.

Whereas, my father, my brother and myself have formerly submitted ourselves and our people unto the king's majesty of England, and to this colony of New Plymouth, by solemn covenant under our hand; but I having of late through my indiscretion, and the naughtiness of my heart, violated and broken this my covenant with my friends, by taking up arms with evil intent against them, and that groundlessly; I being now deeply sensible of my unfaithfulness and folly, do desire at this time solemnly to renew my covenant with my ancient friends, and my father's friends above mentioned, and do desire (that) this may testify to the world against me, if ever I shall fail in my faithfulness toward them (whom I have now and at all times found so kind to me) or any other of the English colonies; and as a real pledge of my true intentions, for the future to be faithful and friendly, I do freely engage to resign up unto the government of New Plymouth, all my English arms, to be kept by them for their security, so long as they shall see reason. For the true performance of the premises, I have hereunto set my hand, together with the rest of my council.

In presence of—	The mark of Philip, chief sachem of Pocanoket.
William Davis.	The mark of Tavoser.
William Hudson.	The mark of Capt. Wispoke.
Thomas Brattle.	The mark of Woonkaponchunt.
	The mark of Nimrod.”

[Mather's Hist. of Indian Wars. Postscript, p. 7.]

[Hubbard's Ind. Wars. Vol. I.]

As Philip did not promptly bring in his guns, as stipulated in the foregoing agreement, a letter was sent to him by the Colony, dated May 27, 1671, as follows;—

“Since of treaty att Taunton, we are vnsattisfied in many things, but especially yt you have not so freely and fully as we expected performed your Tender and of agreement respecting the bringing in of all your guns. We heare of very few you have brought in, though it was known you had a great number of men in armes but a day or tow before the treaty, and many were knowne to return to Mount hope with Armes after the Treaty, and ptiicularly an Indian called John, the interpreter, is known to have carryed home tow guns, and lives by you, and yet you call them not in; nor have given any order, as is said, to some of your men (as in ptiicular them att Assonett) about bringing in these armes.

And yt you had a considerable number of men near Taunton in Armes att the Time of our Treaty, to what intent may be Easilie conjectured. These and what Elce we might mention makes to judge it Expedient yt you should come down and speake wth us at our generall Court the beginning of next Month, that so if it may be, peace and good agreement may be continued between us. Thus expecting your Compliance here in we rest.

Your friends.

Labelled—

GOV. PRINCE.

A copy of this Letor sent
to Phillip since the treaty
at Taunton.

[See Winslow Papers, in Mass. Hist. Soc'y, p. 59.]

To this letter Philip, so far as known, made no response. Accordingly in June following, the guns which he had delivered on the 10th of April, were declared forfeit by the General Court, by this order :

“The Court determines all the guns in our hands that did belonge to Phillip are justly forfeit, and doe att the psent order of the deniding of them, to be kept att the severall townes according to theire equall proportions, vntill October Court next, and then to be at the Courts dispose, as reason may appeer to them, and then to belonge vnto the townes, if not otherwise disposed of. By the Court.

That which the Court grounds theire judgment vpon is:

For that att the treaty att Taunton Philip and his counceel did acknowledge that they had bine in preparation for warr against vs: and that not grounded vpon any injury sustained from vs, nor prouocation given by us, but from theire own naughty harts, and because hee had formerly violated and broken solleme couenants made and renewed to vs; hee then freely tendered (not being in a capascitie to be kept faithfull by any other bonds) to resigne vp all his English armes, for our future securitie in that respect; hee failed greatly in pformance thereof by cecrett conveying away and carrying home seuerall guns that might and should have bine deliuered, and not giuing them vp since, according to his engagement, nor soe far as is in his power; as appeers in that many guns are knowne still to be amongst the Indians that liue by him, and not soe much as gining order to some of his men, that are under his ymediate comaund, about the bringing in of theire armes.”

[Ply. Col. Rec., Vol. V, p. 63.]

Philip, still continuing to act in a hostile and threatening manner towards the Plymouth Colony, was summoned before the

Council of War at Plymouth, the result of which is thus stated in their records.

“Sentrall conclusions agreed on by the Councell of Warr att their Meeting held at Plymouth on the 23 of August, 1671, as followeth.

I. The councell of war, haueing seriously considered of the case in reference to the Phillipe, the cheife sachem of Pacanacutt, hee haueing neglected to answere his ingagement to bring in his armes att the day appointed, and alsoe in his not coming in to giue the reason thereof, being required thervnto, and his vnkind carriages towards vs as other wise, soe in his indeanoring to insence our naighbour collonie against vs by misinformations and by his insolent carriages and expressions of vs and against vs and likewise by his entertaining of many strange Indians which miht ptend danger toward vs; in special by his entertainging of diuers Saconett Indians, professed enemies to this collonie, and this against good councell giuen him by his best friends; the pmises considered, doe vnanimously agree and conclude, that the said Philip hath violated his couenant plighted with this collonie att Taunton in Aprill last.

II. It is vnanimously agreed and concluded by the said councell, that we are necessarily called to cause the said Sachem to make his psonall appeerance to make his purgation in reference to the pmises; which in case of his refusall, the councell, according to what att psent appeers, doe determine it necessary to indeauor his reducement by force; and inasmuch as the controuersy, which hath seemed to ly more emediately between him and vs, doth concerne all the English plantations, it is therefore determined to state the case to our naighbour collonies of the Massachusetts and Rhode Island; and if by their waighty advice to the contrary wee are diuerted from our psent determinations, to signify vnto them, that if they looke vpon themselves concerned to engage in the case with vs against a comon enimie, it shalbe well accepted as a neighbourly kindnes, which we shall hold ourselues obliged to repay when Providence may soe dispose that wee haue opportunitie.

Accordingly, le's were despatched and sent from the councell, one vnto the said Phillip, the said sachem, to require his psonall appeerance att Plymouth on the 13th day of September next in reference to the pteulares aboue mencioned against him; this letter was sent by Mr. James Walker, one of the councell, and hee was ordered to request the companie of Mr. Roger Williams and Mr. James Browne to goe with him att the deliery of the said letter.

What success Mr. Walker had as bearer of this letter to Philip is disclosed in this letter from him to Gov. Prince, on the first of Sept. as follows :

JAMES WALKER TO GOVERNOR PRINCE.

Much Honovred Sir,

AFTER my humble respects presented to you, these are to acquaint you with Philip's answer to your letter. My sons being visited with the ague, forced me to procure brother Harvey to go over to cousin James Brown with the letter, who sent for Mr. Williams to interpret; Mr. Williams not being well, came not till afterwards; yet cousin James and brother Harvey went down to Mount Hope; and the dance being broken up, Philip and the most of his chief men were much in drink; only Accumponin and Tom Saneauik were sober; so that Philip could not then give any answer. Only there passed some words betwixt Philip and cousin James, and Philip struck off cousin James Brown's hat. The day following they went again to Philip, and Mr. Williams with them. The letter being read and Philip caused fully to understand it, they could get no positive answer about Philip's coming to Plymouth, because Mr. Eliot had sent for him to Boston, and he looked for another messenger that day; which messenger they met about two miles from Philip's house; which messenger told them that his message was to desire Philip to be at Punkapoge the last day of this week, and at Boston the Tuesday following. Philip and Tom exclaimed much against Sausiman for reporting that any of the Narragansett sachems were there. Not further to trouble you; but rest desiring the good Lord to be with you, and guide you in all your weighty affairs.

Yours to serve,

Taunton, Sept. 1, 1671.

JAMES WALKER.

The records of the Council then proceed as follows:

And another letter was sent to the Gour. and Conneell of the Massachesetts by the hands of Mr. John Freeman, one of our majistrates, and a third was directed to the Gour. and Councell of Rhode Iland, and sent by Mr. Thomas Hinekley and Mr. Constant Southworth, two other of our majistrates, whoe are ordered by our Councell with the letter to vnfold our psent state of matters relating to the pmises, and to certify them alsoe more certainly of the time of the meeting together in reference to engagement with the Indians, if theire be a goeing forth, which wilbe on the 20 of September next.

It was further ordered by the Councell, that those formerly pressed shall remaine vnder the same impresment vntil the next meeting of the said Councell on the 13th day of September next, and soe alsoe vntill the intended expedition is issued; vlesse they shall see cause to alter them, or adde or detratre from them, as occation may require.

And that all other matters remaine as they were in way of preparation to the said expedition, vntill wee shall see the mind of God further by the pteulares forenamed, improned for that purpose.

It was further ordered by the Councell, that all the townes within this jurisdiction shall in the interem be sollisitously carefull to provide for theire safety by convenient watches and wardlings, and carrying theire armes to the meetings on the Lords dayes, in such manor as will best stand with theire pticulare and the comon safety.

And in pticulare, they ordered, that a guard shalbe provided for the safety of the Gou'nors pson, during the time of the abouenamed troubles and expeditions.

And the Councell were sumoned by the presedent to make theire psonall appeerance at Plymouth, on the thirteenth day of September next, to attend such further business as shalbe then pented by Pronidence in reference to the pmisses.

The action of the Council at the next meeting is thus stated :

On the 13th of September, 1671, the counsell of warr appeered according to theire sumons, but Phillip the sachem, appeered not, but in sted thereof repaired to the Massachusetts, and made complaint against vs to diuers of the gentlemen in place there, who wrote to our Gour. by way of pswasion, to aduise the Councell to a compliace with the said sachem, and tendered theire healp in the achieuing thereof, declaring in sume that they resented not his offence soe deeply as wee did, and that they doubted whether the couenants and engagements that Phillip and his predecessors had plighted with vs would plainly importe that hee had subjected himselfe and people and country to vs any further then as in a neighbrly and frindly correspondency.

The Councell, haueing deliberated vpon the pmisses, dispatched away letters declareing theire thankfull acceptance of theire kind proffer, and invited the comissioners of the Massachusetts and Conecticut (they then being in the bay) & some other gentlemen, to come to Plymouth and aford vs theire help; and accordingly on the 24th of September, 1671, Mr. John Winthorpe, Gour. of Conecticott, Major Generall Leuerett, Mr. Thomas Danforth, Captaine Wilam Davis, with diuers others, came to Plymouth, and had a faire and deliberate hearing of the controuersy between our Collonie and the said sachen, Phillip, hee being psonally psent, there being alsoe competent interpretors, both English and Indians, att which meeting it was proned by sufficient testimony to the conviction of the said Phillip, and satisfaction of all that audience, both the said gentlemen and others, that hee had broken his couenant made with our collonie att Taunton, in April last, in diuers pticulares, as alsoe carryed very vnkindly vnto us diuers wayes.

1. In that hee detained and neglected to bring in the resedue of his English armes, not deliuered att Taunton, according to his engagement, and that notwithstanding hee was allowed competent time. yea, his

time enlarged, yett hee neglected as aforesaid, and instead of bringing them in, improved the opportunity of time rather to make them out of the way.

2. That hee had carryed insolently and proudly towards vs on severall occasions, in refusing to come down to our Court, when sent for to have speech with him, to procure a right understanding of matters in difference betwixt vs.

3. That hee entertained, harboured, and abetted diuers Indians, not of his owne men, which were vagabonds, our professed enimies, who leauing their own sachem, repaired to him and were harboured.

4. That notwithstanding the great wronge hee had done vnto vs in these and such like respects, instead of repairing to the Court, and to endeauer a reconcilliation, hee takes his journey into the Massachusetts Bay, with severall of his counsell, indeauoring to insinuate himselfe into the majestates, and to misrepresent matters vnto them, whoe are our good frinds and neighbors, and what in him lay, therby to work mischeife and difference between them and vs.

5. That hee had shewed great inciuillitie to diuers of ours att severall times, in special vnto Mr. James Browne, whoe was sent by the Court on speeiall occasions as a messenger vnto him, and vnto Hugh Cole att another time, &c.

The gentlemen forenamed, takeing notice of the pmisses, haueing fully heard what the said Phillip could say for himselfe, haueing free liberty soe to doe without interruption, adjudged that hee had don vs a great deal of wronge and injury respecting the pmisses, and alsoe abused them by carrying lyes and false stories to them, and soe misrepresenting matters vnto them, and they pswaded him to make an acknowledgment of his fault and to seek for reconcilliation, expressing themselves that there is a great difference between what he asserted to the gou'ment in the Bay and what hee could now make out concerning his pretended wronges; and such had bine the wrong and damage that hee had done and procured vnto the collonie as ought not to be bourne without competent reparation and satisfaction; yea, that hee by his insolencies had in probabilitie occasioned more mischeife from the Indians amongst them then had fallen out in many yeares before; they pswaded him therefore to humble himselfe vnto the majestates, and to amend his wayes if hee expected peace, and that if hee went on in his refractory way, hee must expect to smart for it, the pticulares whereof are more att large to be seen in a full discourse between our majestates and the gentlemen aforesaid and him, which is extant. In fine, severall propositions were drawn vp and read, every which hee was left to accept of or reject, as he should see cause, in reference vnto his entering into a new couenant with vs; and alsoe in reference to a way of reparation of

some pte of the wrongs don vnto us, the contents whereof are as followeth, by him accepted of and signed vnto.

New Plymouth, this 29th. of September, 1671.

1. Wee Phillip, my counsell, and my subjects, doe acknowledge ourselues subjects to his ma'tie the Kings of England, &c. and the gou'ment of New Plymouth, and to theire lawes.

2. I am willing and doe promise to pay vnto the gou'ment of New Plymouth one hundred pounds in such things as I haue, but I would entreat the fauor that I might haue three yeares to pay it in, forasmuch as I can not doe it at psent.

3. I do pmise to send in to the Gour. or to whom hee shall appoint, fine wolues heads, if I can gett them, or as many as I can proenre. vntill they come to the number of five wolues yearly.

4. If any difference falls between the English and my selfe or people, then I doe promise to repaire to the Gour. of Plymouth to rectify the difference amongst vs.

5. I doe promise not to make warr with any but with the Gouernors approbation of New Plymouth.

6. I promise not to dispose of any of the lands that I haue att present, but by the approbation of the gou'ment of New Plymouth.

For the true pformance of the pmises, I, the said Phillip sachem of Paukanaukett, doe heerby bind my selfe and such of my counsell as are psent, our selues, our heires and successors, faithfully and truely to pforme. In witness heerof wee haue heerunto subscribed our hands the day and yeare aboue written.

The marke **P** of PHILLIP, Sachem.

The marke **T** of WOHKOWPAHENITT.

The marke of **I** WATTAKOOSSEIM.

The marke of **A** SONKANUHOO.

The marke of **3** WOONASHUM,
allies NIMROD.

The marke of **Y** WOOPASUCK,
allies CAPTAIN.

In the presence of the Court and diuers of the majestates and other gentlemen of the jurisdiction of the Massachusetts and Conecticut,—

Takamunna, a sachem att Saconett, appered in Court this third of Nouember, (71) with Phillip, cheife sachem. and did engage for the future that hee, vnder the said Phillip, would stand to and abide by the same engagement of subjection to the Kinges ma'tie of England, this gon'ment and the lawes thereof, with other articles in the engagement, whereto the said Phillip hath subscribed as aboue said, and that the said

Takamunna shall and will bring in or cause to be brought in yearly one wolfs head vnto the Treasurer; Phillip, alsoe, the said cheife sachem did engage for the said Takamunnas pformance of the said engagement in all points thereof.

In witnes wherof, I, the said Takamunna, have sett my hand.

The marke of **Y** TAKAMUNNA.

The progress in this conflict is indicated by this narrative.

Plymouth Commissioners Presented this following:

NARRATIVE showing the manor of the beginning of the Present Warr with the Indians of Mount Hope and Pocasset;

A BRIEF Narratiue of the beginning and progress of the present trouble between vs and the Indians; taking its Rise in the Collonie of New Plymouth.

Anno Dom 1675.

Not to looke backe further than the troubles that were between the Collonie of New Plymouth and Philip Sachem of mount hope In the yeer 1671 It may be Remembered that the settlement and Issue of that controversye obtained and made principally by the mediation and Interposed advice and comcell of the other two confederate Collonies, whoe vpon carefull Inquiry and serch into the groundes of that trouble found that the said Sachems pretence of wrongs and Injuries, from that Collonie were Groundles and ffalce; and that hee (although first in Armes) was the Pecant and offending prty; And that Plymouth had Just cause to take vp arms against him; And it was then agreed that hee should pay that Collonie a certain sune of money, in prte of their damage and charge by him ocaioned; and hee then not only renewed his ancient couenant of friendship with them; but made himself and his people absolute subjects to our Sovr: Lord King Charles the second; and to that his Collonie of New Plymouth since which time wee know not that the English of that or any other of the Collonies haue binn Injurious to him or his, that might justly provoake them to take vp armes against vs; But some time the Last winter the Gour. of Plymouth was informed by Sassamon a faithful Indian that the said Philip was vndoubtedly Indeanoring to Raise new troubles; and was indeanoring to engage all the Sachems round about in a warr against vs some of the English alsoe that lived neare the said Sachem, communicated their feares and Jealousyes concurrant with what the Indian had Informed: about a week after John Sassamon had given his Information hee was barbarously murdered by some Indians for his faithfulness (as we haue cause to beleine) To the Interest of God and of the English; sometime after Sassamon's Death Phillip haueing heard that the Gour. of Plymouth had received some Information against him and purposed to send for or to him to appeer att their Next Court that they might Inquire

into those Reports, came down of his own accord to Plymouth a little before their Court, in the beginning of March last; at which time the Councell of that Collonie vpon a large debate with him: had great Reason to belieue that the Information against him might be in substance true, but not haueing full proofe thereof and hoping that the discoury of it so far would cause him to desist they dismissed him friendly; giueing him onely to vnderstand that if they heare further concerning that matter they might see reason to demand his Armes to be deliuered vp for their securitie; which was according to former agreement between him and them: and hee Ingaged on their demand they should be surrendered vnto them or their order; Att that Court we had many Indians in examination concerning the Murder of John Sassomon but had not then testimony in the case, but not long after an Indian appeering to testify; we apprehended three by him charged to be the murderers of Sassomon; and secured them to a triall att our next Court (holden in June) att which time a little before the Court Philip began to keep his men in Armes about him and to gather strangers vnto him and to march about in Armes towards the vper end of the Necke on which hee liued and neare to the English houses; whoe began thereby to be somewhat disquieted, but tooke as yett no further Notice but onely to sett a military watch in the next Townes; as Swansea and Rehoboth some hints wee had that Indians were in Armes whiles our Court was siting but we hoped it might arise from a guilty feare in Philip; that we would send for him and bring him to tryall with the other Murderers; and that if hee saw the Court broken vp and he not sent for; the cloud might blow ouer; and indeed our Immosensy made vs very secure and confident it would not hane broken out into a warr But noe sooner was our Court desolued but we had Intelligence from Leift. John Browne of Swansea that Philip and his men continued constantly in Armes, many strang Indians from seuerall places flocked into him and that they sent away their wiues to Narragansett; and were giuing our people frequent alarms by drums and guns in the night and Invaded their passage towards Plymouth; and that their young Indians were earnest for a warr; on the 7th of June Mr. Benjamine Church being on Rhod Island; Weetamo and some of her cheiffe men told him that Phillip Intended a warr speedily with the English some of them saying they would heale him; and that hee had already giuen them leaue to kill English mens Cattle and Robb their houses; about the 14th and 15th of June Mr. James Browne went twice to Philip to prswade him to be quiett but att both times found his men in armes and Phillip very high and not pwsadable to peace; on the 14th June our Councell wrot an amicable friendly letter to Phillip; therein shewing our dislike of his practices; and adviseing him to dismiss his strange Indians and command his own men to fall quietly to their business that our people might alsoe be quiett; and not to suffer

himself to be abused by Reports concerning vs, whoe Intended him no wronge; nor hurt towards him; but Mr. Browne could not obtain an answere from him; on the 17th of June Mr. Paine of Rehoboth and seuerall other of the English going vnarmed to Mount hope to seeke theire horses att Phillips request; the Indians came and presented their guns att them and carried it very Insolently tho noe way prouoked by them; on the 18th or 19th Job Winslow his house was broken vp and Rifled by Philips men; June 20th being the sabbath the people att Swansey were alarmed by the Indians two of our Inhabitants burnt out of their houses and their houses Rifled; and the Indians were marching vp as they Judged to assault the Towne; and therefore Intreated speedy heelp from vs: Wee heervpon the 21 of June sent vp some forces to relieue that towne and despatched more with speed; on weddensday the 23 of June a dozen more of their houses att Swansey were Rifled; on the 24th Thomas Layton was slaine at the fall Riuer; on 25th of June diners of the people att Swansey slaine; and many houses burned: vntil which time, and for seuerall daies tho wee had a considerable fforce there both of our owne and of the Massachusetts (To our Grieffe and shame) they took Noe Revenge of the enimie; thus slow were wee and vnwilling to engage ourselues and naighbouts in a warr: hauing many Insolencies almost Intollerable from them, of whose hands we had deserued better;

The substance of what is heer declared
doth cleary more prticularly appeer in
the Records and letters Related unto of
the seuerall dates aboue mensioned:

JOSIAH WINSLOW,
THOMAS HINCKLEY.

The present warr owned by the Commissioners att a meeting of the Commissioners of the united Colonies held att Boston Septem: 9th, 1675.

Wee haueing received from the Commissioners of Plymouth a Narratiue showing the rise and seuerall steps of the proceedings of that Collonie as to the prsent warr with the Indians; which had its begininge there; and its progresse into the Massachusetts; by their Insolynces outrages; murdering many persons and burning theire houses in sundry plantations in both Collonies; and haueing duly considered the same doe declare that the said warr doth appeer to be both Just and Nessesarie; in its first Rise a defensiuie warr: and therefore wee doe agree and conclude that it ought now to be Joyntly prosecuted by all the vnited Collonies; and the charges thereof to be bourne and payed as is agreed in the articles of Confederation.

JOHN WINTHROPE.
JAMES RICHARDS.

THOMAS DANFORTH,
WILLIAM STAUGHTON,
JOSIAH WINSLOW,
THOMAS HINCKLEY.

The Commissioners of the Colonies having fully concurred in the Righteousness of the present warr with the Barbarous Natives for the better Management thereof doe agree and conclude that there be forthwith Raised a Thousand souldiers whereof 500 to be Dragoones or troopers with longe Armes out of the senerall Colonies in such proportion as the Articles of Confederation doe appoint:

The Massachusetts, 527)

Plymouth, - - - 158)1000

Conecticot - - - 315)

[Ply. Col. Com. Rec. Vol. II. p. 362.]

APPENDIX T.

[Page 48.]

This remarkable letter was in these words :

Taunton, April 15, '76.

Honored and Beloved:

We have received your affectionate letter full of Love and undeserved bountie towards us, your unworthy Brethren and neighbors, and we bless God that He hath given us soe much room in your hearts, that you soe freely tender us a part with you in your houses, fields and provisions, at such a time when the Lord is threatening us with bereavement of our own. It much comforteth us in this day of darkness and distresse; we assuring ourselves thereby, that if our distresses continue and increase, we shall want noe succor you are able to afford us. We therefore return you all serious thanks for your sincere and abundant Love, beseeching the Lord still to continue and increase your peace, and abilitie and readiness to relieve the distresses in this evil daye. Nevertheless, upon our serious and mature deliberation upon and consideration of your soe great offer, we cannot at present comply with a motion to remove and quitt our places, and leave our habitations to be a desolation, and that because we fear we should in soe doing be wanting to the name of God and the interest of Christ in this place, and bewraye much diffidence and cowardice, and give the adversarye occasion of triumph over us, to ye reproach of that great and fearfull name of our God, that is called on us. Our sins are already such as might render our friends (did they know us) affraid to entertain us; and what can we expect as the issue of such an addition thereunto, but that the hand of the Lord would follow us, and find us out whithersoever we fled.

"Besides, if the Lord have any pleasure in us, and will see farr favour and honour us, we judge we may here be more serviceable to ye country than elsewhere, and hazzards of removal (as great as of abiding where we are) avoided; and who can tell, but that the Lord may make way for our enjoyment of seed time and harvest here, by prospering our forces which are coming forth, if we could but humble ourselves before Him? And if the Lord have no delight at all in us, but will for our sins (which were but just) make His dwelling place here as Shiloh, we are in His hands. The Lord do with us as seemeth good in His sight. Here we have sinned, and here we submit ourselves to suffer, except the Lord's Providence, and order or advice of Authorities should plainly determine us to removall; in case whereof, we shall esteem it an undeserved kindness to find shelter among yourselves, and comply with your motion for aught yet appears, more generally than with any course we can propose to ourselves: As a pledge whereof we are willing, if it may be judged convenient by you, to secure some of our cattle in your parts, that they may be no booty or succor to the enemy, if the Lord spare them so long as that we may have opportunity to convey them, in which we desire your speedy advice. And beseeching you not to cease to pray for us that the Lord would heal our backslidings, and prepare us for what measure of the cup of His indignation it may seem good to Him to order us to drink, we present you with our respects, service, and love, and subscribe ourselves your obliged brethren and friends and servants in ye Lord.

To this we subscribe in the name of the Town.

RICHARD WILLIAMS,

WALTER DEANE,

GEORGE MACY,

WILL HARVEY.

(Hinckley Papers Vol. II. No. 3.)

APPENDIX U.

[Page 49.]

As early as 1663 "It was proposed by the Court vnto the seuerall Townships of this jurisdiction as a thing that they ought to take into their serious consideration that some course may be

taken that in euery towne there may bee a Schoolmaster sett vp to traine vp children to reading and writing."

(XI Ply. Col. Rec. p. 20.)

Plymouth established the first free school, for the maintenance of which the profits of the Cape fishery were at first devoted (XI Ply. Col. Rec. p. 233 and 237); but in 1677 a General law was passed establishing a grammar school in the larger towns: a copy of which is here given.

"At the General Court, held at Plymouth, the first of November, 1677:

"Forasmuch as the maintenance of good literature doth much tend to the advancement of the weal and flourishing state of societies and republics, this court doth therefore order, that in whatever township in this government, consisting of fifty families or upwards, any meet man shall be obtained to teach a grammar school, such township shall allow an least twelve pounds, in current merchantable pay, to be raised by rate on all the inhabitants of such township; and those that have the more immediate benefit thereof, by their children's going to school, with what others may voluntarily give to promote so good a work and general good, shall make up the residue necessary to maintain the same, and that the profits arising of the cape fishing, heretofore ordered to maintain a grammar school in this colony, be distributed to such towns as have grammar schools, for the maintenance thereof, not exceeding five pounds per annum to any such town, unless the court treasurer or other appointed to manage that affair, see good cause to add therunto, to any respective town, not exceeding five pounds more per ann. And further, this court orders, that every such town as consists of seventy families, or upwards, and hath not a grammar school therein, shall allow and pay unto the next town, which hath such grammar school kept up among them, the sum of five pounds per ann. in current merchantable pay, to be levied on the inhabitants of such towns by rate, and gathered and delivered by the constables of such towns, as by warrant from any magistrate of this jurisdiction shall be required. (Mass. Hist. Coll. 2d Series, Vol. 4, p. 83. XI Ply. Col. Rec. p. 247.)

In March, 1682, the Court divided the cape fishery money as follows: "to Barnstable scoole, twelue pound; to Duxburrow scoole, eight pound; to Rehoboth scoole, five pound; to Taunton scoole, three pound; and two pound to Mr. Daniel Smith." (VI Ply. Col. Rec. p. 102.)

APPENDIX V.

[Page 50.]

The Commission of Gov. Andros from King James II, dated June 3, 1686, may be found in Mass. Hist. Coll. 3d Series, Vol. 7, p. 139. The tax which produced such excitement in the Colonies was levied the next January as appears in the following order:

January the 4th 1686.

Ordered: That a single Country Rate of one penny in the pound be levyed & collected in all the late Colonies and Provinces towards defraying the publick charge of this his Maj^{ties} Government.
January the 12th 1686.

“Ordered: That the Secretary send the order of Councill of the 4th instant to the Treasurer for Collecting the Rate to his Maj^{tie}, and that the Treasurer issue out his Warrants for collecting the same accordingly.”

The treasurer at that time was Mr. John Usher.

The letter of Mr. Wilbore to Mr. Usher, referred to in the address has not been found, but it produced the following order from Gov. Andros and his Council.

“Shadrach Wilbore Clerke of the Towne of Taunton being by the Messenger brought before this Board and Examined about a scandalous factious and seditious writeing sent from the said Towne to the Treasurer in answer to his Warrt for the publique Rate signed by him as Clerke he owned the same and declared it to be the Act of the Towne.

Ordered That the said Shadrach Wilbore be bound over to answer for the same att the next superior Court to be holden att Bristoll.

And that in regard Justice Tho. Leonard was present att the Towne meeting when the said writeing was voted and did not hinder the same, that he be suspended from the said Office.

And that the Constables of the said Towne be likewise bound over to answer att the said Court for neglect of their duties in not obeying the Treasurers warrant.

And that the Constables and Select Men of the said Towne doe forthwith cause the said warrant to be fully executed. (Meeting held Wednesday August 31st 1687.”)

(State Arch. Vol. 127, p. 59. Council Records Vol. 2, p. 137.)

This order was followed on the same day by a warrant for Wilbore's arrest, as follows :

To ye Sherriff of ye County of Suffolk.

Whereas Shadrach Wilbore, Towne Clerke of Taunton, hath lately in ye name & with ye Consent of ye sd Towne Wrote & published a certain Scandalous factions & Seditious writeing, Therein very much Reflecting upon and Contamneing the Laws Authority & Govenmt of this his Mats'y territory & Dominion of New England the such writeing upon his Examination before his Excellency in Conncill he hath Confessed & Owned: these are therefore in his Mats'y Name to Require & Command yo to take into your Custody ye body of ye said Shadrach Wilbore & him safely keep in his Mats'y Goals untill he shall have answered for ye sd Contempt & MisDemeanor, & be from thence Delivered by due Course of his Mats'y Laws. Whereof fail not & for soe doing this shall be your Warrant Dated in Boston ye 30th day of August 1687.

By Order in Council.

(Mass. Hist. Coll. 3d Series, Vol. 7, p. 190.)

Mr. Wilbore, after having been awhile in jail at Bristol, the then shire town, wrote this letter and petition to the Governor:

"The humble petition of Shadrach Wilbore, of Taunton, Town Clarke, To his Excellency, Sir Edmond Andrews, Knight Governor-in-Chief of his Majesty's Territory and dominion in New England.

"Humbly sheweth that whereas your petitioner (but as a servant) did in the name, and with the consent of the Town of Taunton (as Towne Clarke) as by virtue of his office judged himself obliged to do, did write a letter to John Usher, Esq., the contents of said letter or writing proving very offensive to authority for which your petitioner is very sorry that he should give any cause of offence to any, either by writing or any other way, for it was not in any way intended by your petitioner either to offend your Excellency or the government his Majesty hath set over us, and therefore wherein your petitioner hath offended any person he craveth their pardon, entreating your Excellency to impute the offensiveness of said writing to the ignorance, weakness and unskilfulness of your poor petitioner as to law matters, entreating your Excellency to grant your poor petitioner a gracious pardon as to honourable Court's sentence against him here at Bristol and remit it, or what of it your Excellency shall think fit, beseeching your Excellency to consider what your poor petitioner hath suffered both at Boston and also here at Bristol,—at Boston his imprisonment there and charges for a release out of prison, and here at Bristol, it being five weeks since he was first committed to prison, entreating your Excellency to consider the inability of your poor petitioner and the time of the year (it being very cold for a poor prisoner) and alsoe his low estate and a great family of children (not needful to say the Town of Taunton hath already answered the matter then in question) and for the future your petitioner

hopes he shall be more careful what he writes. So craving your pardon for giving your Excellency the trouble of reading these lines, hoping for your Excellency's gracious Answer shall rest your humble petitioner.

SHADRACH WILBORE.

" Bristol the 14th of November, 1687.

[State Arch. Arch. Vol. 127. p. 236.]

In 1689, the town voted to remunerate Mr. Wilbore in these words:

" This 21 day of November, 1689. It was voted and granted to Shadrach Wilbore, the town Clerk, one hundred acres of land joining to his land at Bareneed, or somewhere thereabout, in consideration of his imprisonment and suffering, he paying what money is due at that account, which is to say the five and forty shillings which we borrowed of Wiliam Wilbore of Rhode Island."

APPENDIX W.

(Page 51.)

Province Laws, 1759-60. Ch. 36.—An act for raising a sum of money by lottery, for removing the rocks and shoals in Taunton Great River, and thereby to render the navigation in said river more easy and less hazardous.

Whereas the navigation in Taunton Great River, between (the) Ware Bridge and Rocky Point, is much obstructed and straightened by reason of divers rocks and shoals in said river, and vessels are often sunk by running on the rocks between the said bridge and Rocky Point, to the great prejudice not only of trade in general, but to those particular persons who have occasion to transport their lumber and other commodities up and down said river for a market; to the end, therefore, that those obstructions may be removed, and the navigation in said river rendered more easy and less hazardous,—

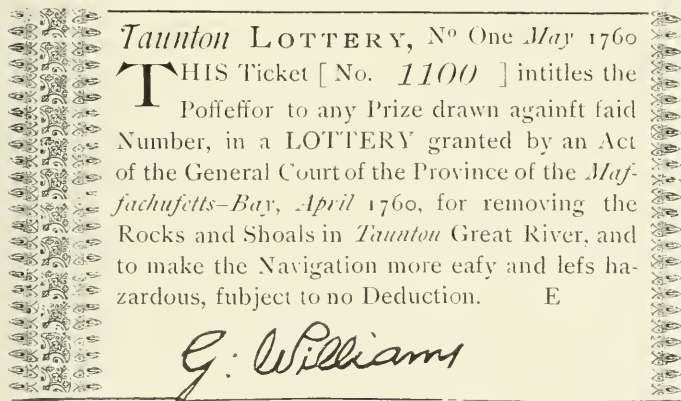
Be it enacted by the Governour, Council and House of Representatives,

(Sect. 1.) That James Williams, Esq(r), Capt. George Willams, Mr. Robert Luscomb and Mr. John Adams, all of Taunton, and Mr. Stephen Burt of Berkley, or any three of them, be and hereby are impowered to set up and carry on one or more lottery or lotteries, amounting in the whole to such a sum as, by drawing or deducting ten percent out of the

same, may raise three hundred and fifty pounds, and no more: and that the said sum of three hundred and fifty pounds, raised by the deduction aforesaid, be, by the persons above named, paid to Messieurs James Walker, Israel Tisdale and Stephen Macomber, a committee appointed for the purposes in this act mentioned, within ten days after the sale of the tickets of said lottery shall be compleated, taking their receipt for the same: or, if the persons first above named shall think fit to raise said sum of three hundred and fifty pounds by more lotteries than one, then the money raised by each lottery, by the deduction aforesaid, shall, within ten days after the tickets of each lottery, respectively, are sold, be paid by them to the committee aforesaid, or the major part of them.

[The other sections of the act are omitted.]

A copy of the tickets issued is here given :



APPENDIX X.

[Page 52.]

In March 1707 many inhabitants of the northerly part of Taunton, sent a petition to the town to bound them out a "pre-cinck," as follows .

"We whose names are underwritten, being part of the Inhabitants of Taunton Old Town, and part of Taunton north purchase, being all very sensible of the great difficulty that we are under in living so remote from the publick worship of God, and great need of haveing it settled amongst us, that so our children and those under our care & charge, as well as ourselves, may enjoy the meens of grace, and in order theirt, we have this 27th day of novem., 1707, met together, and made choice of George Leonard and Nicholas White, whom we chuse as our agents to act in our behalf in makeing Request to the town to bound us out a pre-sink for the maintenance of a minister; and that, when we have procured a minister to dispence the word of God amongst (us) we might be freed from paying to the minister & Schoolmaster at town, and we do also give our sd. agents full power to do any further act or acts, thing or things, that they shall see needfull to be dun for ye bounding of sd. precink, and procureing an able orthodox minister to be orderly Settled amongst us, whether it be by petitioning to the General court to Settle the bounds of sd. precineck, or by any other way or meens whatsoever; as witness our hands the day and year above written. we further promise, that in case a minister be procured as abovesd., that we will each of us pay our proportion by way of rate for his maintenance. witness our hands, George Leonard, Nicholas White, Thomas Braman, sen., Thomas Stevens, Selvanis Camble, John Hodges, Nathaniell Hodges, Samuell Hodges, Jabez Pratt, Thomas Braman, jun., William Hodges, Robert Tucker, Ephraim Grover, Matthew White, Seth Dorman, Ebenezer Hall, John Caswell, jun., Benjamin Caswell, John Wetherell, Ebenezer Edy, Samuel Brintness, John Caswell, sen., Eliezer Edy, John Cob, Andrew Grover, Peter Aldrich, Israel Fisher, Thomas Grover, Nathaniel Fisher, Joseph Briggs, Benjamin Williams, Nathaniel Harvey, John Briggs, jun., Nicholas Smith, John Newland, William Cob, Benjamin Newland, John Lane, John Briggs, John Skinner."

[State Papers, Vol. CXIII, p. 512.]

George Leonard and Nicholas White were appointed a Committee to present their request to the town, to whom on March 22, 1708, afterward, Mr. John Wetherell was added by a portion of the subscribers, the significance of which soon appears.

The very next day the committee drew up and sent this petition to the town:

"March ye 23rd, 1708.—Whereas divers Inhabitants of Taunton north purchase, together with divers of the Inhabitants of Taunton old township, bordering on the north purchase, made choice of we, the subscribers, whome they chose as thare Agents to make request to the town to bound us out a precinct for the maintenance of a minister; we whose

names are underwritten, do therefore, in the behalf of our friends and neighbours, humbly and earnestly desire the town seriously to consider of the vary difficult circumstances that we are under in living so remote from the publicque worship of God, that great part of the year we cannot come to meeting; and that we can at no time of the year, without very great difficulty bring almost any of our children to meeting; so that, if we continue long after this manner, the sowls of our children, and those under our care and charge, will be in danger of perishing for lack of knowledge. for it is Evident from scripture that faith comes by heering, and heering by the word preacht. Tho we are not insencable of our poverty, and great difficulty that we shall thereby meet with in carrying on such a desire, yet, on the other hand, we have eaus to be thankfull that our neighbours are generally very forward to promote so good a work; and our poverty can be no Argument to have our preeinck lesened but rather Enlarged. wherefore we Earnestly desire and hope that the town will forward and inecorage so good a design, and grant that the military line may be the bounds of the precinet, which is burt's brook, and from the mouth of sd. brook to the bridge neer william wetherell, and from sd. bridge north Easterly to the north-purchase line: that so we may not have one line for the military, and another for the minister, and, in hopes you will grant us this our request, we subscribe ourselves your humble petitioners.

GEORGE LEONARD,
JOHN WETHERELL,
NICHOLAS WHITE."

[State Papers, Vol. CXIII, p. 513.]

The town not inclining to grant the request.

"June 18, 1708.—At a meeting of some of the subscribers, they gave thare agents Liberty to pertition to the Genl. court for a township."

Accordingly on the 20 Oct., 1708, two of the Committee presented this petition to Gov. Dudley :

"To his Excelleney Joseph Dndley, Esquire, Capt.-Generall and Governor-in-chief in and over her majestie's province of the Massachusetts bay in New England; And to the Honored counceill and Representatives now convened in Generall Court this 20 day of October, 1708.

"The humble petition of Diverse of the Inhabitants of Taunton North purchase, humbly sheweth that sd. Inhabitants being very sensible of the great difficulty they are now under in living so remote from the publick worship of God, and the great need of having it settled amongst them, that so their children, and those under their care and charge, as well as themselves, may Injoy the meens of Grace, They

make choice of us the subscribers, to be their agents, to make known their desire to the town of Taunton to have a precinct bounded out to them for their maintenance of a minister to dispence the word of God among them: and also to petition the Generall Court to settle the bounds of sd. precinct; and also to procure an able orthodox minister to be orderly settled among them, as they appear by a writeing under their hands, dated November the 27th, 1707, and also on the 23d of march, 1708; by which writing they also promise to pay their proportion by way of rate for the maintenance of said minister provided as abovesd. In persueance of sd. power and trust committed to us, we have communicated this matter to the town of Taunton, at a town meeting: and although we have great Incoragement that the most considerable Leading men will be and are for it, yet there is some few that do hesitate about the bounds That we desire for sd. precinct; so that hetherto nothing of that nature is finished. and seeing our young ones increase and grow up apace, and that the Lord hath in marcy (as we hope it is in marcy) so inclined the hearts of our neighbors to earnestly to desire and seek after this thing, we therefore, the subscribers as agents for and in the behalf of sd. Inhabitants, do humbly pray this Generall Court to grant this our humble petition, and the bounds of said precinct which we desire is, the line or bounds of the military company called the North purchase company may be the bounds of the said precinct, which is a brook called burt's brook, and from the mouth of said brook to wennaconnit bridge, and from sd. bridge north-easterd to the North-purchase line, but leaveing out of sd. precinct all the Inhabitants in the North purchase that commonly go to Bridgewater meeting, who live on the Estardly side of the rhode that Lecadeth from winnaconnit to the bay,—for they in time hope to be a precinct with part of Bridgewater, which we shall not oppose—but taking into sd. precinct all belonging to Taunton old Township within the bounds above mentioned, but if all the North purchase ware Enexed to Taunton for the present, we think it would be best for the managing of public concerns; only that the lands within the bounds settled and agreed on between the propriators of Taunton North purchase and thair neighbors, on all parts, be confirmed to said proprietors, and the abovesaid precinct settled for the maintenance of the ministry in said precinct, and we farther pray that this honored court would also appoint a committee to order where the meeting-house should be sett. all which, if this honored court please to grant, your humble petitioners shall, as in duty they are bound, ever pray.

GEORGE LEONARD, (Agents for and in the be-
NICHOLAS WHITE, } half of said Inhabitants,

[State Papers, Vol. CXIII, p. 510.]

On this petition the General Court made this order :

"22 Octo., 1708—Read in Conneil; and *Ordered*, that the Selectmen of Taunton be served with a copy of this Peton., and heard thereupon before this Court upon the second Tuesday of the next Session of ye sd. Court, if anything they have to say why the prayer of the within Petition should not be granted."

ISA. ADDINGTON, Seery.

[General-Court Records, Vol. VIII, p. 391.]

The service of this petition on the town led to a town meeting as follows :

Taunton, Feb. ye first day, 1708-9.—Whereas ye selectmen of our town was served with a copy of ye North purchas and South purchas petitions, and they caused ye town to meet together this day, and Read thayr petitions in ye town-meeting, when matters was fairly debated; and there being many men of many minds, so that nothing was concluded on, only some persons would have ye selectmen to take thayr time, and write ye Court an answer.

So the assembly ware dismissed.

"JOHN WILBORE, Town Clerk."

This inaction naturally called for another meeting, thus stated:

"At a Legall Town-meeting, warned and held at Taunton publick meeting-house, the 22 day of February, 1708-9. It was voted that the town doth Impower the present selectmen to make return to the General Court in answer to the petitions of the north and south purchasers.

"A true copy transcribed by me,

"JOHN WILBORE, Town Clerk."

(State Papers, Vol. XI, p. 297-8.)

The Selectmen thereupon, in behalf of the town sent in this remonstrance :

"To his Excellency Joseph Dndley, Esquire, Captain-Generall, Governor-in-chief in and over her majestie's Province of the Massachusetts bay, and the rest of the honorable Councill and Representatives Convened in General Court, May the 25, 1709, humbly Sheweth:—

"That whereas the Honoured Court sent to the Selectmen of Taunton to show their reasons (if any they have) why Taunton North purchas and South Purchase should not have their prayer granted,—

"In answer whereunto, we say, that although it hath pleased God to Increase our numbers,—which, we hope, is in mercy,—yet must say, that, through the providence of God, a great many are so extream poor, and rates and taxes so high, that we find it hard and difficult to rub

along; and the Generality of the North purchase are so poor, that we fear they will not be able to build a meeting-house and to maintain a minister." [This relates to the South purchase, for which see hereafter.]

"But as for the North Purchase, we think it better for them to be a Township than a precinct.

"This is our last and final answer, upon mature consideration.

ISRAEL THRASHER,)
)
JOHN SPUR,	) Selectmen
)
EZRA DEAN,)

"We whose names are underwritten are of the same mind with those above,—Thomas Leonard, Henry Hodges, Samuel Deane, Seth Williams, Joseph Williams." [State Papers, Vol. CXIII, p. 514.]

The Committee for the petitioners were not backward to strengthen their original petition by another in these words:

"To his Excellency, Joseph Dudley, Esquire, &c., 25 day of May, 1709.

"Whereas we, the subscribers, agents for and in the behalf of divers of the Inhabitants of Taunton north purchase, and divers of the inhabitants of Taunton old Township, belonging to the north purchase military company, have petitioned this Honoured Court to bound said Inhabitants a precinct for the maintenance of a minister; and in said petition, we have not informed the Honoured Court how far said inhabitants dwell from Taunton meeting-house; these are therefore, to Inform this Honoured Court, that Benjamin Newland, Elezer Edy, and Ebenezer Edy, who dwell the nearest to Taunton meeting house of any of sd. Inhabitants, dwell at least five miles and a half from Taunton meeting-house, as near as can be computed; and William Wetherell, Sen., John Wetherell, Elezer Fisher, Israel Fisher, Nathaniel Fisher, dwell about six miles from sd. meeting-house; and John Austin, John Briggs, junior, William Cobb, Nicholas Smith, John Newland, Thomas Stevens, John Hodges, and Richard Briggs, dwell about seven miles from sd. meeting-house; as also Thomas Braman, Robert Tucker, and Nathaniel Hodges and Samuel Hodges, Selvanis Cambell, William Hodges, George Leonard, John Briggs, and Joseph Briggs, dwell about eight miles from sd. meeting-house; and John Lane and John Cobb dwell near 9 mile from sd. meeting-house; and Peter Aldrich, Nicholas White, Mathew White, Seth Dorman, John Hall, John Caswell, Benjamin Caswell, and Joseph Elliot, dwell about ten miles from sd. meeting-house. Benjamin Williams dwelleth about Eleven mile and a half from sd. meeting-house. All these

abovenamed go to Taunton meeting: but Isaac Shepherd, Thomas Grover, Andrew Grover, Ephraim Grover, Ephraim Sheldon, John Skinner, Samuel Brintnell, dwell farther from Taunton meeting-house than these abovenamed, (so) that they commonly go to wrentham meeting; and they dwell six, seven and eight miles from wrentham meeting. This account is as neer as can be computed without mesuring; as witness our hands,

GEORGE LEONARD.

NICHOLAS WHITE.

[State Papers. Vol. CXIII. p. 515.]

The controversy grows warmer, and the town proceeds to additional opposition, thus:

“June the first, 1709.—At a Legall Town meeting, warned and held at Taunton publick meeting-honse,

“2. It was put to vote, whether the Town would chuse a committee of five men to give Reasons, in behalf of the Town, to the General Court, why the petition of the North and South purchases should not be granted.

“3. It was voted that the town shall chuse five men to make Return to the Generall Court, and give their reasons why the prayers of the North and South purchasers should not be granted; and the persons then chosen for the committee were Lieut. James Leonard, Thomas Harvey, Ensign Phillip King, Ensign Thomas Gilbert, and Jonathan Padleford.”

[State Papers, Vol. XI, p. 299.]

This Committee promptly acted by sending in this petition:

“To his Exclty. Joseph Dudley, Esquire, &c.

“Whereas George Leonard and Nicholas White, as they call themselves, agents for and in the behalf of divers of the Inhabitants of Taunton North purchase, and divers of the Inhabitants of Taunton old Township, preferred a petition to this honored. Court on ye 20th day of October, 1708. for the settling a precinct according to certain bounds sett forth in sd. petition: and in Reading sd. petition, in Octo. 22, 1708, this great and Generall Court ordered That the selectmen of Taunton be served with a copy of sd. petition, and to be heard thereupon, &c., upon ye second Tuesday of the next Session of this Court, If any thing they have to say why the prayer of the petitioners should not be granted; and that the matter may stand in a true Light, we the subscribers, a committee chosen in Taunton, would humbly offer to this honrd. Court, that, when the tract of land was bought (called the North purchase) by the Inhabitants of Taunton, It was designed for a Township by it Self, and not any ways to Dammitie the old township by taking any of the Inhabitants thereof then settled, or to be settled to make the purchase a Township or precinct; for, If that may be, our forefathers and some of us layed out our own money miserably to our own wrong, and to the wrong-

ing of our poor old town, and the petitioners well knew all the circumstances before they settled, and their imprudent settling sd. north purchase procures these difficulties; for, had they settled in or about the middle of sd. purchase, the people that are now there would have been capable of being a Township, and so to maintain A minister without breaking or harming the old town. and whereas it is Insinuated in sd. petition, that, when they had communicated to the town, They had Incredulment that the most considerable Leading men would be for it, and as If there were but some few that did hessitate about the bounds; which must needs be some great mistake, or something else; for the town being warned together by the selectmen, upon their being served with a copy of their petition, to consider that matter (and the south purchase petition) there was such a contention and tumult betwixt the town,—that is, the whole body almost of the town and leading men and petitioners,—that the meeting was dismissed, and nothing done but confusion, and now we come to some few objections against granting the prayer of sd. petition (we humbly hope and fear will doo) upon a due consideration. First, as has been hinted, it is very griveous to and contrary to the minds of the body of the people of the old township,—Excepting some few that are Related and some ways Interested, as things plainly appear to us,—and, If granted, we very much fear will unsettle us in our present settled state. 2ly, we know no part of the old-township Inhabitants but are Equally concerned and obliged to pay to the Reverend Mr. Saml. Danforth, our settled minister. Though some may pretend that it is butt an Inconsiderable thing that is desired, we must say it is a great thing; for our charges are almost Intolerable already, and growing Every day. and the line the petitioners speak of would Incompass almost all our meadows, for they lye chiefly in that part of the town; and will separate some new houses from their lands, which must needs be a great confusion. 3dly, Sundry of our neighbours of the old Township, which will be Incomposed within sd. line, If Granted,—considerable men,—have been with our selectmen, and manifested their great unwillingness to be joyned with the north purchase as a precinct, and offered to us sundry papers signifying that they had been persuaded and imposed upon by some of ye north purchase to joyn with them to petition for a precinct, but they wholly refused; but upon some other considerations, did sign some of these papers and so when they had got their hands and by these tricks the poor subscribers are quite contrary to their minds and Intents. Improve them, as it were deceitfully, to make them part of the intended precinct; which actions cannot be consistent with the truth and their good promises, but must needs be Displeasing to almighty God. the selectmen not agreeing to make answer to this honrd. Court, the selectmen warned a town meeting, June 1st, 1709; and the Town and petitioners mett together; and the town chose a commite, which are the

subscribers, to act and make answers to this honrd. Court now, for which reasons we have layed down, and what may be farther offered, we do desire and humbly hope that this honerd. Court will so far in their wisdom consider the matter as not to grant the precinct Desired, Least it should be the beginning of trouble with us. we would farther offer this honrd. Court, as the mind of the whole town, that they are very willing and Desirous that the north purchase should have all privileges proper and needfull for them both civil and Eclasticall; and, therefore, have not the least to say against their being a township of themselves, according as was intended from ye foundation of it (as above was hinted) and not any way to Joyn to, or Entermeddle with, the old township, or with that sd. purchase. craving pardon for our boldness and a charitable constriction of what we have writ, we pray the allmighty God to Direct you in all the affairs before you, and subscribe your honer's most humble servants.

Dated Taunton, June 4th, 1709.

JAMS. LEONARD,)	
)	
PHILLIP KING,)	
)	
THOMAS GILBERT,	)	Commity."
)	
THOMAS HARVEY,)	
)	
JONATHAN PADEFORD,)	

[State Papers, Vol. CXIII, p. 509.]

Some of the inhabitants of the North purchase evidently preferred a new town to a precinct and thus expressed their views :

"To his Excellency Joseph Dudley, Esqr., &c.

"We whose names are underwritten, being inhabitants of ye town of Taunton, humbly sheweth, that wee being very sensible of ye great daingur we are in of being Impoverished and brought to great distress for yt, to witt, Som of our neighbors, Inhabitants of sd. Taunton, and som of ye west part of Taunton North purchase, being often very important with us to agine with them to pertetion ye General Court to grant them a precinct; but we knowing ye inability of ourselves and our neighbours, could not comply with them but they, after pleading there want of a preecincts to be granted to them, and their inability to maintain ye same without our help, we, willing to doe them a cindness, did, som of us, signified to ym, yt if they would petition ye General Court to

grant a township to the whole north purchase, and so much of Taunton as was agined to them in ye military, that we would agine with them. som of us whose names are underwritten, and ye rest of us, did wholly refuse to sett our hands to any writing Either for a township or precints neither: But they, having pertitioned ye honored Court for to grant them a precinets, contrary to our minds and intent, and hath set forth ye limets of sd. precinets to make us a part thereof, which will be no benefit to us, but so great a charg yt will soon bring us to poverty; for we are not able to pay our parts to a precinets charg, and to pay ratts to ye town also. And as ye petitioners do preten to ye want of a minister to dispence ye word of God to them, we say we are in no such want; for we have ye benefit of hearing ye word preacht by ye Reverant Mr. Danforth, under whose ministry we desire to continue. Therefore we pray ye honored Cort to consider our condition, yt we may not be consarned with our precinets, but yt we may enjoy our privilidges as formerly. And whereas som of us (namely John wetherell, John Nulan, Benjamin Nulan, Nicholas Smith, John Briggs, junior) did sett our hands to soms of there papers, but we understood ourselves only consarned with them for a township; but we understand they have made a wrong improvement of our names; we did not think they wold have taken such advantage as to improve our names as petitioners with them for a precinets. But our comfort is yt ye honored Cort will not suffer us to wrong one another. we subscribe ourselves your most humble petitioners.

William Wetherell, sen.,
John Austin,
Edward Whit,
Jeremiah Wetherell.
Jeremiah Newland,
John Wethell.

John Briggs, junr.,
John Nulan,
Ben. Nulan,
Nicholas Smith,
William Cob.

[State Papers, Vol. CXIII, p. 511.]

The General Court with all these petitions and counter petitions, apparently took this action as the next step:

“June 8, 1709. In Council.—Upon the hearing of the several petitions of the inhabitants of the No. and So. Purchases, in Taunton, to be made separate Precinets for the settling and support of the ministry in the respective places,—

“Resolved, that Nathaniel Thomas, Nathaniel Byfield, and James Warren Esqrs., be a committee to repair to Taunton, and view the said several purchases, and upon consideration of all circumstances, to set off proper Precinets to encourage the good Ends desired by the petitioners, and to advise and direct to the most snitable places for the raising of their meeting-houses, and to make their report to the next session of

this Court for conformation, Nathaniel Thomas Esqr., to appoint the Time. The charges of the said Committee to be borne by the said Precincts."

[Gen. Court. Rec. Vol, VIII, p. 441.]

The Legislative Committee soon visited Taunton, to perform their duty and made a report as follows :

" Taunton Augt. 31, 1709.

" Pursuant to an order of the Great and General Court dated June ye 8th, 1709, to us Directed to Repaire to Taunton and view the several tracts of land which the Inhabitants of the North and South purchases in Taunton have petitioned to be made separate precincts, for the settling and support of the ministry in said Respective places;—

And we the subscribers, having viewed the several tracts, and heard the allegations of the opposite Parties thereto, upon consideration of all circumstances, have sett the bounds of the several Precincts as follows: That is to say, That the Bounds of the North Precinct (according to their petition) shall begin at the line between the two late Colonies of the Massachusetts and Plymouth, in the line of the bounds between Taunton North Purchase and Attleboro' and from thence southward to Rehoboth North-east corner; and from thence eastward, on the said North Purchase line, to Taunton Bounds; and from thence eastward to the mouth of the Brook called Burt's Brook, Leaving out Capt. Hodge's Land at Burt's Brook, and extending from the mouth of Burt's Brook to the Bridge made over the mill River, near William Wetherell's; and from thence North-eastward to the North-Purchase Line; and from the North-Purchase line, the road that leads from said Bridge towards Boston to be the bounds till it come to the Line between the said late Colonies: wch line to be the Bounds to Attleborough Bonnds aforesaid.

And that the meeting-house for the said North Precinct be sett on the Northward side of the way that leads over Rumford river at Crossman's way, at the place where the way crosseth it that leads from John Hodge's to the Beech Island.

In testimony whereof, we have hereunto set our hands.

NATHANIEL THOMAS,
NATHANIEL BYFIELD,
JAMES WARREN.

[State Papers. Vol. XI, p. 296.]

This report, in favor of a precinct, merely stirred up those who desired a new town to make one more effort for the latter: and they again addressed the Governor as follows :

“September 9, 1709.

“To his Excellency Joseph Dudley, Esqr., &c.

“Wee ye subscribers, Inhabitation and proprietors of Taunton North purchase (so called) humbly sheweth, that whereas we understand that som of our neighbours, with som of ye Inhabitants of Taunton, have obtained incoragement from this General Cort to be a preeincts; but, forasmuch as our neighbours have not acwainted us therewith as they ought so to do, we, being major part of sd. purchase inhabitants, and ye first Setlers, do, in all humble submission, offer to your honors ye unhappy effects yt may happen not only to ourselves, but to ye whole tract of land which was from ye foundation, intended for a township, which now it is capable of; there being many inhabitation already settled, and many more going to settel, on said tract of Land. But if there be so great a part of sd. Land taken of us as we understand is set forth for a preeincts by those honorable gentlemen ye committy, who have done according to their plesure; and if ye meeting-hous be built where sd. committy hath appoynted,—which is neare ye west End of sd. purchase, which will be serviceable but to very few; wh. will be a means to spyle ye said tract of Land and caus it to be wholly unfit for a township, and frustrate ye intention of us, ye proprietors thereof, and will discourage many from settling on their lands in sd. purchase. And whereas they have left about one-third part of sd. purchase of ye East part, supposing Bridgewater will add part of their town to it, to make ye part a preeincts, it is a great mistake. ye inhabitants of Bridgewater give us no such incoragement. Therefore we pray this honored Cort, that there may be pertition-lines between ye one end of our sd. purchase and ye other; but yt, if ye honored Court thinks it convenient, wee pray yt ye honerd Cort would grant us a township, with all the priviledges belonging to a town, to ye whole north purchase, and so much of Taunton old township as belongs to our military Company, which is from ye mouth of a Broock called Burt's Brook, and from thence to wenacomett bridge, and from thence north-east to ye sd. north purchase line; and yt ye meeting hous may be set in ye most convenient place in ye senter, between the East and ye West End, which we conceive will be most convenient for ye whole town, both for ye worship of God on Sabbath dayes and for military trainings, and all other publiick meetings. And wee would humbly say, yt wee are very sensible yt we are in a great necessity of an able orthodox minister to be settled amongst us to dispence ye word of God amongst us; which when we are a town, we hope we shall be able procure and settel amongst us; which we hoop we shall soon indevor for, that tharein we may be happy. And whereas some have objected, and said yt ye north purchase is to long to come to one mitteng, we think it a great mistake; for we can come to ye senter; and why cannot those who do object against it com as well as we? And further, we pray this Cort to give a name unto

our town; but, if this Cort thinks it is not proper to grant us our petition, we pray the precincts may not be conformed to those who have pertitioned for ye sam, but it may be suspended untell ye Cort can be better informed. We do appynt and impower ——— to be our adiants to prefare this our pertition to ye Honored Cort. we Subscribe ourselves your most humble petitioners.—

William Manley, senr., Thoam Drake, John Phillips, Benjamin Drake, William Manley, jun., John Daily, Clemant Briggs, Ephraim Howell, Isaac Leonard, John Drake, George Hall, John Howard, Nathaniel Ames, Samuel Leach, Ephraim Howard, William Ames, James Keith, Samuel Lathrop, Sener, Samuel Lathrop, Juner, Nathaniel Packard, Joseph Hayward, —— Haris. ”

[State.Papers, Vol. XI. p. 302.]

Three days afterwards, Sept. 12, certain individuals in favor of a town, presented this additional petition :

“ To ye Honered Generall Cort held at Boston.

“ We ye subscribers, Inhabitance of Taunton, liveing within ye precincts Line of ye North purcheis, on ye Easterly part thereof, in all humble submition doe offer to this Cort. yt whereas our neighbors have obtained a precincts to be set forth by a Committy appynted for ye same, and they have taken us into sd. precinct, which was contrary to our minds, altho’ we signified our minds to sd. Committy yt. we ware not willing to be cut of from our minister and mitting-hous so near ye west end of sd. North purcheis yt we shall have no benefitt thereby, so yt we are like to be in wors condition than we ware in before: it being so remote from us, and a more uneasy way to travill on: Tharfore, if it be ye pleasure of this Cort yt wee must be drawn of from our minister and mitting-hous, unto which we have heatherto belonged, and have layed out part of yt littel Estate yt we have towards ye supporting of, and help with others to build another mitting-hous, and settell another minister. we pray yt ye whole north purchies, and ye part of Taunton which belongs to ye miletary Company, may be made a township, and ye mitting-hous may be sett where it may be servisable for the whole town: which, we conceive, will be a great benefit to all ye inhabitance within ye tract of Land; for it is a great pity but so good a work should be prophitable

to all ye inhabitaunce abovesaid; whereas, if ye mitting-hous be built in ye place where it is appynted, it will be prophitable to but a very few. We subscribe ourselves your most humble petitioners.

“Dated in Taunton

September 12, Ana Domini 1703.

We desire yt Mr. Robert Crossman may deliver these lines into ye Cort.

JOHN BRIGGS, Junior.
JOHN AUSTIN.
JEREMIAH WETHEREL.
WILLIAM COB.
EDWARD WHIT.
JOHN WETHERELL.
BENJAMIN NEWLAND.
NICHOLAS SMITH.
WALTER MERY.
JOHN NEWLAND.
JEREMIAH NEWLAND.”

[Sate Papers Vol. XI. p. 302.]

The friends of a precinct were not idle, and thus again gave their reasons for a precinct.

1st. Because now is the time that the spirit of God seems to move the hearts of those people So earnestly to desire it.

2dly. Because if it be now granted, it is to be hoped that some most considetable persons will be Incouraged to come and settle there, when they know that an orthodox minister is settled there.

3dly. Because it is to be feared, if there be no settlement of the ministry among them till some of those leading men among them are taken away, and others grown up in their room that will be brough up in an ungospelled way, many of them will be so far from desiring a minister, that, if some among them should Invite a minister among them, some others would warn him away.

4ly. Because if the Court do not grant what is desired to settle a minister in these places, when the report thereof is spread abroad that these people desired such a Grant, but the Court would not grant it, It is to be feared that it will be an Incouragement to some Envious persons to come and settle there, to the undoing of the places, and creating trouble to the Government: whereas it is to be hoped that a timely settlement of the ministry there will be a means to make those places useful in the Government, and happy to the Inhabitants.

These petitioners do not act through any dislike to their present pastor, nor to the church in Taunton, but have as great a love for, and esteem of, said pastor and church, as to render them well satisfied and contented, if their habitations were near enough to the meeting.

And the pastor has as great a love and respect for them both in the north and south purchase.

Therefore it is not any discontent or Animosity that causeth the petitioners to stir as they do, but only that they and their children may enjoy the means of grace nearer to them.

[State Papers. Vol. CXIII, p. 517.]

The General Court, on the 16th Sept. 1709 accepted the report of their Committee, before referred to, in favor of a new precinct with a slight proviso, and thus this long and exciting controversy seemed to have terminated in favor of George Leonard and Nicholas White and the prospect for a new town was not encouraging. But in less than two years the new Precinct and the Town both agreed that a new town should be established, and on their petition, this order was passed :

“ March 17th, 1710-11.—

The following Order passed by the Council and Assembly respectively, upon the Petition of the North Precinct in Taunton, Praying to be made a Town, having the consent of Taunton therefor; viz:—

Ordered, That the North Precinct in Taunton be, and hereby is, granted to be a town, distinct from the Town of Taunton by the name of NORTON, and have and enjoy the Powers, Immunities and Privileges by law granted to Townships; and that a bill be projected, and brought in at the next session of this Court, fully to perfect the sd. Grant. Provided that the East End of the North Purchase shall have half the said Purchase as their Precinct when they are able to maintain a minister, and this Court judge them so.”

[Gen. Court Rec. Vol. IX, p. 100.]

Thereupon the bill was passed for a new town as follows, and the final disposition of the question was reached.

“ An Act for raising a new Town by the name of NORTON, within the County of Bristol.

Whereas the tract of Land commonly called and known by the name of the North Purchase, Lying situate within the Township of Taunton, in the county of Bristol, circumscribed within the Lines and Boundaries prescribed by a committee some time since appointed by the General Assembly, as follows. viz.: Beginning at the line between the two late Colonies of the Massachusetts and Plymouth, in the line of the said North Purchase and Attleborough; from thence Running Southward to Rehoboth North-East corner: from thence Eastward on the North-pur-

chase Line, to Tanton bounds; thence Eastward to the Mouth of the Brook called Burt's Brook, and extending from the mouth of Burt's Brook to the Bridge over the Mill River, near Wm. Witheref's; and from thence North-eastward to the North-Purchase Line; and from the North-purchase Line, the Road that leads from the said Bridge towards Boston to be the Bound till it come to the Line betwixt the two Late Colonies aforesaid which Line to be the Bounds to Attleborough aforesaid was set off from Tanton by and with the consent of that Town, and by an order of the General Assembly, passed at their Session in March, 1710, made a distinct and separate Town from Tanton, containing a sufficient quantity of Lands and a competent number of Inhabitants for that purpose, and named NORTON; the full perfecting of the said grant being adjourned and referred to the present Courts.

In pursuance, therefore, of the afore-recited Order and Grant, and for the completing and perfecting of the same, Be it enacted by his Excellency the Governor, Council, and Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same That the aforesaid Tract of Land commonly called the North Purchase circumscribed and bounded as above expressed, Be and is Granted to be a Township Distinct and separate from Tanton; the Town to be named Norton, and all the Inhabitants thereof to have, Use, Exercise, and enjoy all such Immunities, Powers, and Privileges as other Towns within this Province have and do by law exercise and enjoy, so that the said Inhabitants settle and an able, Learned, Orthodox Minister in the said Town, and from time to time allow him a Comfortable support.

Provided Nevertheless, That the Inhabitants in the east end of the said North Purchase shall have one-half of the said Purchase as their Precinct, when they are able to maintain a minister, and this Court judge them so."

June 12th, 1711.

[1 Prov. Sts. p. 676.]

(In the preparation of this Appendix much aid has been derived from Rev. Mr. Clark's History of Norton.)

APPENDIX Y.

(Page 53.)

The original petition for the setting off of the South Precinct, dated Oct. 11, 1708, and signed by thirty-one residents in that locality was in these words:

"To His Excellency Joseph Dudley Esqr. Governour. And to the Honourable Councill, And Representatives Assembled in their Great and Generall Court Att Boston October 20, 1708.

We the Subscribers, Inhabitants of Taunton South purchase together with severall Inhabitants of the old Township of Taunton That dwell on the east side of the great river: Being under great disadvantages By reason of remoteness from the meeting-House in the center of the old Township, many of us liveing six and seven and some of us Eight miles and some more then so distant therefrom, so that it is impossible for us to carry our whole families with us to meeting. And those that are Aged and Crasey among us can seldom repayr thether And while the heads of the families are absent, the younger persons are exposed to prophayn the sabbath att Home.

We doe therefore out of a sincere respect to the glory of god and the leaveing religion as a portion unto our posterity: Pray This Great and Generall Court. That we may have the liberty to settle a minister among our selves That is able orthodox Learned and pious Hoping that there is a competent number of us the Petitioners, to Afford that support to such A quallified Minister as may Incourage one to settle among us In Case this Court will please to free us from paying to the support of the Ministry in the old Township: Which we humbly conceive may be thought reasonable; Considdering that there will be as great a number of Inhabitants Remaining in the old township to support the ministry there when we are drawn of, As there was in the whole township twenty years since And that the greatest part of the Inhabitants of this south purchase have settled themselves there within this twenty year, And we submit to the wisdom of this Great and Generall Court to make us either a precinct or a township as they shall see Cause. And to set such a line thereunto as may Comprehend All the families of your Petitioners: Although the line we our selves Have thought upon is the line that Runs Betwixt the south-purchase and Taunton old township: And Crossing the great river to keep the same point till it meet with the line of fretown Township: And we have chosen Capt. Jared Talbut To present this our petition and to wait upon the Court As is need full to obtain their favourable answer therein.

Dated In Taunton October 11th 1708. By your very Humble Petitioners,

Edward paull

John Reed

Ebenezer briggs

Henry Pitts

Nathaniell Briggs

Nicolas Haskens

James Talbut

Isaac pool

John paull

Richard haskins

James paul

Ebenezer Pitts

Sammel Waldron

Ephraim Hathway

Thomas Jones

Hezekiah Hoar

Abraham blanchard
 Penieman briges
 John Crane
 Isaac hathway
 Edward Shove
 James Tysdale
 Joseph Dean
 Jared Talbut
 Abram hathway

Matthew briggs
 Thomas briges
 David Walker
 Amos briggs
 Joseph pooll
 Samuel Whitmarsh

This petition was followed by the following order:

“ In Council, 28 Octo. 1708.

Read and Ordered That the Petrs cause the Selectmen of Taunton to be Served with a Copy of this Petition and that they be heard thereupon before this Court, on the second Tuesday of their next Session: If any thing they have to Say why the Prayer thereof may not be Granted.

Jsa. Addington Seery.

Sent down for Concurrence.

In the House of Representatives.

Octo. 29th 1708. Read &

Pass'd. in Concurrence.

Thomas Oliver

Speaker.”

Upon Reading of a Petition of the Inhabitants of Taunton South Purchase, with several of the old Township, Setting forth their Remoteness from the Place of publick Worship, Praying to be made a Separate Precinct for the Ministry; Ordered that the Petitioners Cause the Select Men of Taunton to be served with a Copy of the said Petition And that they be heard thereupon before this Court, on the second Tuesday of their next Session, If any Thing they have to say: why the Prayer there of may not be granted.

Voted a Concnrence in the House of Representatives.

Consented to J. Dudley.

(Date of meeting, October 28, 1708.)

On the service of this petition there was a tumult in Taunton, as is easily gathered from the following action of the town: viz.:

“Tanton feb ye first day 1708-9

Whereas ye select men of our town was served with a copy of ye north purchas and south purchas petitions and they Caused ye town to meet to Gather this day and Read thayr petitions in ye town meeting when matters was fairly debated and thare being many men of many minds so that nothing was Concluded on, only some persons would have ye select

men to take thair time and write ye Court an answer, so ye assembly ware dismissed.

John Wilbore Town Clerk.

Henry Hedges

Another town meeting three weeks afterwards as follows :

At a Legall Town meeting, warned and held at Taunton publick meeting house the 22 day of february 1708-9 It was voted that the Town doth Impower the present select men, to make Return to the Generall Court in answer to the petitions of the north and south purchasers

A True Coppy Transcribed by me John Wilbore Town Clerk.

In May following the Selectmen sent in this communication :

“ And as for the South Purchase, we are very sensible that they will be exposed to great difficulty, by reason of the Great River that runs through the middle of that desired precinct, which will be difficult to pass in Winter by reason that the ice is many times not strong enough to bear, and to hard to break. Yet we say, that if this Honored Court in their wisdom see it convenient, and our neighbors and friends see their way clear, we shall not oppose them; so that the Court order it that we be no way concerned with any of their charges, but that they bear it themselves.”

But the town apparently desired to reinforce this protest and accordingly a special committee was appointed for this purpose, as appears by the following :

“ June the first 1709 At a Legall Town meeting warned and held at Taunton publick meeting house it was first Voted to chuse a Moderator and the person chosen by Vote was Lient James Leonard.

2. It was put to vote whether the Town would chuse a committee of five men to give Reasons in behalf of the Town, to the Generall Court, why the petitions of the north and south purchasers should not be granted,

3. it was voted that the Town shall chuse five men to make Return to the Generall Court and give their Reasons why, the prayers of the north and south purchasers should not be granted, and the persons then chosen for the committe were Lient James Leonard, Thomas Harvey Ensign , phillip King: Ensign Thomas Gilbert and Jonathan paddleford.

A true copy Transcribed By me John Wilbore Town Clerk.

There was evidently some sharp work going on here, for on the 4th of June, 1709, the Selectmen sent this word to the General Court :

To ye honored Generall Cort

we whose names are under written Knowing it to be our duty to be faithfull unto ye Care and trust committed to us by ye towne of Taunton and Knowing yt Capt Jarat Talbut of our taunton south purchase and others of his neighbours had petitioned ye Great and Generall Cort to grant them a township or a presint and hearing yt ye Cort had sent us a notification to make answer why their prayers should not be granted I James Leonard desired sd Talbut to let us ye selectmen have ye notification yt ye Cort had sent to us which was on ye 30th day of may: 1709 and sd Talbut said yt we should have it if we would pay for it and on ye first day of June 1709 I said Thomas Harvey desired sd Talbut to give us ye sd notification and sd Talbut said he had given a cotype of sd notification to John Spur on of our select men as witnes our hands this 4th day of Jun in yeare of Christ 1709.

James Leonard } two of ye
Thomas harvey } selectmen.

This Committee, above chosen June 1st, immediately sent in this remonstrance.

To his Exely Joseph Dudley Esqr. Captn Generall & Governour in chief in and over her majesties province of ye Massachusetts bay &c and to ye honoured Councill and Representatives convened in General Court.

Whereas a petition has been presented to this great and General Court by some of Taunton south purchase and some of the Inhabitants of The East side The Great River opposite to sd purchase, to be joyned to gether either in a township or precinct, Separate from the old Township or other parts of sd town, and upon Reading and Considering sd petition This Great and general Court ordered that the Select Men of Taunton bee served with a cotype of sd petition as we hear, that they might be heard If they had any thing to say, why ye prayr of sd petitioners should not be granted, the Select Men warnd a town meeting to Consider of the matter (as also concerning ye north purchase petition) and the Town met togather and petitioners: but fell into such a heat of spirit by such a Striving by the petitioners to break our Town to pesis: The day was spent in Confusion and the meeting dismiss and nothing done: and the selectmen warnd another town meeting to be on ye 22nd day of february 1708-9 and the town and petitioners mett to gather, the select men desired of Capt. Talbut to se the petition That they and the Town might Consider it and doo what was proper to be done about it but Captn. Talbut Utterly Refused to show it To them or to Lett them see it, so that we the subscribers cannot tell what is properly petitioned for, and are therefore Rendered incapable of making any objections or to manifest our unwillingness to have it granted, having nothing but common talk to consider of, which grieves us and puts us to a stand what to

do, now may it pleas this Great and honord Court, If we offer any thing as objections to ye granting sd petition, it cannot be certain for we know not certain what they petition for: If our neibours would be a Township, we humbly conceive that cannot be without the Towns willingness, for Townships are to continue as they are by our Charters and Laws, and If it be a precinet that our neighbours would have according as is talked about, it is not possible to answer the end they propose to themselves and it will certainly put such a charge on the midle part of the Town who live upon small Lots that they will not be able to beare it, but must we fear Dismis our settled minister and quit our houses and smal Lots and move into the out parts of the Town too Or Leave the Town quite, all that we can say farther is untill we are farther acquainted with the sd petetition is earnestly to pray This great and General court, that the matter may wholly sease, or at Least be suspended that the matter may be farther considered In our Town, and If it may fairly and in a christian way be Debated among us which we humbly conceive may stop a great Deal of Trouble and Contention among us, and we are humbly of opinion that ye true state of the matter cannot be known by what is offored, but If there be any farther proceedings about it, we pray a Commitee of Remote persons be chosen to vew what is Desired and hear what may be said and make Report to this great and generall court att ye Charge of those that Trouble us. The Select men not agreeing in making answer to this honrd Court they warnd another Town metting June 1st 1709 and ye Town and petitioners mett Together to chuse a commitee and the Town made a choyce of us the subscribers to act and make answer to this honrd Court and so pray that God almighty Direct in this and all the weighty affairs before in this time of Difficulty we subscribe your honord humble servants

Dated June 5th 1709.

James Leonarrd	} Commitey
Phillip King	
Thomas Harvey	
Thomas Gilbert	
Jonathan padelford	

Some of the Southern residents however did not concur in the foregoing petition, but sent in this remonstrance, which indicates a need of a school master quite as much as of a minister.

To his Exelencey the governor Capt. giniaril In and over his maiestes province of the masachusetts bay in New England: and heeir maeistes Conneel and to his honourable house of Representatives sitting at boston febuarey 24th 1708 may it pleas this great and general Court to here the humble petishion of us whose names are under writon being the inhabetence of the south purchas that belongeth to Taunton: We under

stand some of our neighbours of sd south purchase have proposed a petishio to gether with some of the East side of Taunton great River whose hands are to sd petishion for township or presink we pray that no such thing may be for these Resens folowing 1. We are but fu in number 2. The most of us young beginirs having great laings out to to subdue the wildrnes and to build houses to dwell in. 3. the greatness of Rates by Reson of wars and long continuing and no appearance of peace and that we cannot expect peace so long as every mans hand is against his neighbour 4 we are informed our neighbours of the south purchas have made artickles of agrement that they will build the meeting house upon their one Cost and Charge and be at the Charge of setting an atardoxe minister and half charge of ferebots tofere over sd River which will be several hundreds of pouns lost; it will be Runus to us and them if any such thing be: 5ly the defley of feren over the River by Reson of eise often fresing and thain that it is so un serting that some of Those most Knoing the River Latly fell threw the ise and were in great Danger of Drowining: 6ly great Diffiley by Reson of the waters exces of swiftnes up the River and some times down some tides with wind very dangrous pasing aecos some times by great floods Runing so swift down sd River dangrous pasing over: 7ly We ar not willing to leve our Reverend Mr. Samuel danfoth who is and will be we hope untill death our faithfull menester of Jesus Christ: therefore In particlar we pray that we may not be Removed from under his faithfull ministrey: 8ly we pray as childrin to their father that you would not snfer aney such thing to be because we are not able to bare it by Reson of our inability: the litle bee when neley swarmed is destitute of honey: 9ly We wer not In formed of sd petishion untill we were Informed by sd generall court: and that we dooe owne one quarter part of sd south purchas as our one freehold: hoping in your clemency yours to pray for.

nicolas morey
eleazer Walker

James Walker sen.
elezabeth emerson
James Walker
John Ward
Nathan Walker

The General Court feeling much perplexed at this variety of views in the persons most interested, resolved to send a committee to examine and report upon the subject, in these words:

Upon the Hearing of the several Petitions of the Inhabitants of the North & South Purchases in Taunton, to be made separate Precinets for the Settling & Support of the Ministry in the respective Places.

Resolved that Nathaniel Thomas, Nathaniel Byfield and James Warren Esqrs. be a Committee to repair to Taunton, & View the said several

Purchases. & Upon Consideration of all Circumstances, to sett off proper Precincts to encourage the good Ends desired by the Petitioners, and to advise & Direct to the most suitable Places for the Raising of their Meeting Houses, and to make their Report to the next Session of this Court for Confirmation, Nathaniel Thomas Esqr. to appoint the Time: The Charges of the said Committee to be born by the said Precincts.

Wch Resolve being sent down to the Representatives Was Concur'd by that House—————And is Consented to, J. Dudley.
(Date of meeting, June 8. 1709.)

This Committee reported as follows :

“ Pursuant to an Order of the Great & Genll Court dated June ye 5th 1709 to us Directed to Repaire to Taunton & vew the severall Tracts of land which the Inhabitants of the North & South Purchases in Taunton have Petioned to be made separate preeincts for the settling & support of the Ministry in the said Respective Places.

And We the subscribers haveing vewed the said severall Tracts & Heard the allegations of the opposite Partys thereto upon Consideration of all Circumstances have set the bounds of the severall preeincts as followeth

That is to say That the bounds of the North Precinct according to their Petition) shall begin at the Line between the two old Colonys of the Massachusetts & Plimonth in the line of the bounds between Taunton North Purchase & Attlebury & from thence Southward to Rehoboths Northeast Corner & from thence Eastward on the said No. Purchase line to Taunton bounds, & thence Eastward to the Mouth of the brook Called burts brook leaving out Capt. Hodgess land at Birts brook & Extending from the Mouth of Burts brook to the bridge made over the Mill River near Wm. Witherells & from thence North Eastward to the North Purchase line & from the North Purchase line the road that leads from said brig towards Norton to be the bounds till it come to the line Between the said late Colonys which line to be the bounds to Attlebury bounds aforesd.

And that the Meeting house for the said North Precinct shall be sett on the Northward side of the way that leads over Rumford River at Crosmans Way at the Place where the way Crosseth it that leads from John Hodges's to the Beech Island.

And the bounds of the Precinct of the South Purchase aforesd shall (according to their Petion) be the Line between Tanton Town old Bounds & the said South Purchase & from the Mouth of three Mile River to the Maple Tree att assemitt River at the Road of freeTown land. And that the Meeting house for the said South Precinct shall be set on the West side of the way near Capt. Jerard Talbutts house according as the Petitions have agreed.

In testimony whereof We have hereunto set our hands

NATHANIEL THOMAS,

N. BYFIELD,

JAMES WARREN,

16th Sept., 1709 In Council.

Read and accepted. Jsa. Addington. Secry.

Sent down for concurrence

Sept. 16 1709. Read

In the House of Representatives.

Sept. 19 1709. Read & Concurred with the Proviso annex'd

John Clark Speaker.

Diepredict

Agreed to the Provisio In Council

Jsa. Addington Secry.

Provided that the East End of the North Purchase shall have halfe the said Purchase, as their Precint; when they are able to maintain a Minister, & this Court judge them so.

But soon this South precinct was anxious to become a separate town and petitioned for that purpose, on which this action was taken by the House of Representatives.

“ Upon reading a petition of Cpt. Jared Talbot Agent for & in the Name & Behalf of the Inhabts of the South Precinct in Taunton, Praying to have their Bonnds circumscribed & ascertained & to be made a Township of them selves;

Ordered That the Petitioner Cause the Select Men of Taunton to be served with a Copy of this Petition to notify them that they attend a Hearing of the Prayer of the Petition before this Court on Friday the tenth of November next, if they continue to sit so long, If they have any Thing to object thereto, Otherwise on the first Tuesday of the next Session.

Concurred by the Representatives:—Consented to, J. Dudley.

(Date of meeting, October 27th 1710.

If any opposition was made to the creation of a new town it was not successful, and in 1712, an order was passed as follows:

Upon Reading a Petition of Cpt. Jared Talbot Agent for the South Precinct in Taunton, Praying in the name & Behalfe of the Inhabitants of the said Precinct that they may be made a Town, as prayed for in a former Petition.

Ordered that the Prayer of the Petition be granted for a Township The Town to be named Dighton, There having been a Hearing betwixt the Petitioners & the Agents for the Town of Taunton before this Court in a former Session some Time since, and that upon the application of

the Select Men of Taunton or of Dighton, the former Committee assigned to survey & propose a Line for the Precinct be desired & impowered to perfect fully describe & ascertain the Line throughout, & Report the same to this Court, Not including any Land, but what is property within the Township of Taunton, Saving the Determining the Charge of the Building & Repairing of Bridges upon a Hearing at any Time before this Court, as also a Proportion of all Arrearages of Town Charges accruing whilst Taunton Township remained entire before division, and that a Platt of this Township be presented:

Concurred by the Representatives:—Consented to, J. Dudley.

(Date of meeting, May 30, 1712.)

The town of Dighton was thus somewhat irregularly created, but in 1744 a confirmatory act was passed, defining the bounds as follows:

AN ACT FOR ASCERTAINING THE BOUNDS OF THE TOWN
OF DIGHTON;
AND FOR THE CONFIRMATION OF THEIR POWERS AND
PRIVILEGES.

[3 Prov. Sts., p. 215.]

WHEREAS in the year one thousand seven hundred and twelve the South Precinct in Taunton was erected into a township by the name of Dighton, but the bounds thereof were not fully ascertained and by reason thereof of late there have some disputes arisen, and application hath been made to this court to ascertain the bounds,—

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GOVERNOUR, COUNCIL AND HOUSE
OF REPRESENTATIVES,

(Sect. 1.) That the bounds of the said town of Dighton shall be as follows; viz.: beginning at a heap of stones by a rock near the water side on the westerly side of Broad Cove and from thence running Westerly to a heap of stones near Bristol old path; and from thence westerly to a heap of stones near two miles from said Broad Cove and then running northerly about two miles to a stump of an ash tree; thence west and by north, to Rehoboth ancient line, to a stake and stones about it, being the north corner of the town of Swanzey, and the southwest corner of the said town of Dighton; thence northerly on a straight line to a marked tree commonly called the "Horseshoe;" thence easterly by marked trees down to the Three Mile River, so called; then with said River to Taunton Great River; then down Taunton Great River till it comes to the bounds first mentioned, together with Assonet(t) Neck, so far northerly as to come to the northerly bound of the land that was Mr. Edward Shove's; and that the land included within the bounds aforesaid shall always hereafter be deemed a township by the name of Digh-

ton as aforesaid; and that the inhabitants thereof be invested with the powers, privileges, and immunities that the inhabitants of any of the towns within this province by law are or ought to be invested with, any law, order or custom to the contrary notwithstanding.

(Sect. 2.) And all former acts and proceedings of the inhabitants of the said town of Dighton are hereby declared to all intents and purposes as valid, and of as full effect as if the said town had by an act of this court been incorporated and vested with the powers and privileges of a township at the time of their being taken off from Taunton, or sep(e)- (a)rated as aforesaid.

PROVIDED ALWAYS,—

(SECTION 3.) That property shall not be affected by this act, any construction thereof, or of any part thereof, to the contrary notwithstanding. Passed January 8, 1744.

APPENDIX Z.

[Page 53.]

The following is the act creating the town of Raynham.

Province Laws, 1730-31. Ch. 14.—An act for dividing the town of Taunton, and erecting a new town there by the name of Raynham.

Whereas the town of Taunton, within the county of Bristol, consists of a great number of inhabitants, and the northeasterly part thereof is competently filled with inhabitants, who have addressed this court to be set off a district and sep(a) (e)rate township,—

Be it therefore enacted by His Excellency the Governour, Council and Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same,

(Sect. 1.) That the north-easterly part of Taunton, as hereafter bounded and described, be and hereby is set off and constituted a sep(a) (e)rate township, by the name of Raynham; the bounds of the said township to be as followeth; viz., on the east by Bridg(e)water line; on the south by Taunton Great River, including all the land of Lieutenant Ebenezer Robinson on the south-easterly or south side of s(a)i(d) river (except that p(tie)i(ce) of land by his saw mill, near the furnace, which is in Middleborough precinct); thence down said river to the bounds between the land of Thomas Dean and Nathaniel Williams, at the place called Shallow Water; thence on a straight line to the east end of Prospect Hill, at the going over of the way; including within said new township all the land of Zeephaniah Leonard, and that which was formerly Capt. James Leonard's,

which joineth to and is on the west side of said line,—which is to pay his proportion of all publick charges to said new township,—and excluding the land of Nathaniel Williams, joining to and on the east side of said line,—which is to pay his proportion of publick charges to the town of Taunton; thence to run northerly by said way to the great cedar swamp at the going in of the great-island way; thence to cross said island, and run straight to Easton line, at the nearest place; thence to run easterly by s(ai)d Easton line, until it comes to Bridg(e)water line, first mentioned; and that the inhabitants of the said lands, as before described, are hereby accordingly endowed and vested with all powers, privileges, immunit(ie)(y)s and advantages which other towns in this province by law have and enjoy: *provided*, that the inhabitants of the said town of Raynham do, within the space of three years from the publication of this act, procure and settle a learned, orthodox minister, of good conversation and make provision for his comfortable and honourable support, and likewise provide a school master to instruct their youth to read and write.

Provided, also,—

And be it further enacted,

(Sect. 2.) That the said inhabitants of the s(ai)d town of Raynham pay their respective proportions of all taxes and town rates that are already levied or assessed upon the town of Taunton, for charges hitherto arisen within said town; and that that part of the land belonging to John King and Phillip King, within the bounds herein described, that ha(th) (ve) been heretofore exempted from paying public charges to the town of Taunton, be also in like manner exempted from paying any charges towards this new township.

(Passed April 2; published April 5, 1731.

APPENDIX AA.

(Page 53.)

The act creating the town of Berkley reads thus :

An act for dividing the towns of Taunton and Dighton, and erecting a new town there by the name of Berkeley.

Whereas the southerly part of Taunton, and the north part of Dighton, on the east side of the Great River, is competently fill'(e)d with inhabitants who labour under difficulties by reason of their remoteness from the places of publick meetings in the said towns, and have there-

upon made their application to this court, that they may be set off a distinct and sep(a)(e)rate township, and be vested with all the powers and privileges that other towns in this province are vested with,—

Be it therefore enacted by His Excellency the Governor, Council and Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same,

(Sect. 1.) That the sontherly part of Taunton, and the northerly part of Dighton, on the east side of the Great River, as hereafter bounded and described, be and hereby are set(t) off, constinted and erected into a sep(a)(e)rate and distinct township, by the name of Berkeley.

(Sect. 2.) The bounds of the said township being as follows; viz., beginning at the great river at a forked white oak tree, at the landing place between the land of Abraham Tisdal(e) and Micah Pratt, and from thence to extend on a streight line to a dam, known by the name of Little Meadow Dam(m); from thence to a rock with a heap of stones on it, in the said Little Meadow: from thence to extend on a streight line, until it intersects the line of the preeinct, which includes part of Taunton and part of Middleborough, opposite to the dwelling house of John Williams; from thence to extend on said preeinct line to the maple tree, which is the corner bounds of Middleborough, Freetown, Dighton and Taunton: and from thence, bounded by Freetown, till it comes to a little knapp or hillock of upland, being the bounds between Dighton, Freetown, and Assonet Neck; and then bounded by the land of Mr. Edward Shove, till it comes to Taunton river, and then bounded by said river, till it comes to the first mentioned bounds.

(Sect. 3.) And that the inhabitants thereof be and hereby are vested and endowed with equal powers, privileges and immunities that the inhabitants of any of the other towns within this province are, or by law ought to be vested with.

Only

(Sect. 4.) It is to be understood that John Spurr, Nicholas Stevens, John Tisdale, Abraham Tisdale, Israel Tisdale and Ebenezer Pitts, and their families and estates, are not to be included in said township, and are to belong to the towns of Taunton and Dighton, as formerly.

(Sect. 5.) And the inhabitants of the town of Berkeley are hereby required, within the space of two years from the publication of this act, to procure and settle a learned, orthodox minister of good conversation, and make provision for his comfortable and honourable support, and also erect and finish a suitable and convenient house for the publick worship of God, in said town.

Provided also,

(Sect. 6.) That the inhabitants, included within this township, that heretofore belonged to Taunton, shall from time to time, pay towards

the repair of Ware Bridge in proportion with the remaining part of Taunton, according to their assessment in the last province tax, and also their proportion of the rates and taxes already made in Taunton; and that that part of this new township which belong'd to Dighton, pay their proportion with the said town of Dighton of the arrears of their outstanding rates already made, and of the debts due from the said town of Dighton, and also their proportion of the charge for the maintenance of the present poor of the town of Dighton.

(Passed and published April 18, 1735. Prov. Laws. 1734-5. Ch. 19.)

APPENDIX BB.

[Page 54.]

The history of the settlement of New Taunton is fully disclosed in a copy of the records of the Proprietors, which has been obtained in full from the records of the town of Westminster, Vermont, and are given below. "Rumford on Merrimac," mentioned hereafter, is well known to be Concord, N. H., and the "Great Falls" is now called Bellows Falls. Twenty-eight townships were laid out between the Connecticut and the Merrimack rivers. One on the *west* bank of the Connecticut, was on its survey called "Township Number One," and being granted to a number of persons from Taunton, Norton and Easton, in Massachusetts, and from Ashford and Killingly, in Connecticut, who had petitioned for the same, was named "New Taunton," as most of the petitioners were from this town. The first meeting of the proprietors was Jan. 14, 1736, (O. S.), and on the 26th Sept., 1737, (O. S.,) only nine months later, the allotment of shares took place, and proposals were issued for building a saw mill and grist mill. On the 5th of March, 1740, the true northern boundary line of Massachusetts was established, and New Taunton was found to be not within the jurisdiction of this Commonwealth.

At a Great and General Court or Assembly for his Majesty's Province of the Massachusetts Bay in New England began and held at Boston upon Wednesday, the Twenty Eighth Day of May 1735 and continued by several

adjournments to Wednesday, the Nineteenth Day of November and further continued by adjournments to Wednesday the Thirty-first Day of December following and then met Thursday, January 15, 1735.

Edmund Quincy Esquire from the Committee of both Houses on the petitions for Townships &c, gave in the following Report, viz.:

The Committee appointed the Fourteenth current to take into consideration the several Petitions for Townships now before the Court and Report what may be proper for the Court to do thereon. Having met and maturely Considered the same are humbly of opinion, That there be a careful view and survey of the lands between Merrimack and Connecticut Rivers from the north-west corner of Rumford on Merrimack to the Great Falls on Connecticut of Twelve miles at the least in Breadth or north and south, by a committee of Eleven able and suitable Persons to be appointed by this Court, who shall after a due Knowledge of the nature and circumstances thereof, lay the same into as many Townships of the contents of six miles square as the Land in width as aforesaid will allow of: no Township to be more than six miles East and West, and also Lay out the Land on the East side of Connecticut River from said Falls to the Township laid out to Josiah Willard and others into as many Townships of the Contents of six miles square as the same will allow of: and also the land on the west side of the River of Connecticut from said Falls to the Equivalent Land into One or two Townships of the contents of six miles square if the same will allow thereof:

Five of which Committee to be a quorum for surveying and laying out the Townships on each, from Rumford to Connecticut River as aforesaid: And three of the committee aforenamed shall be a quorum for surveying and laying out the Townships on each side of Connecticut River as aforesaid: And that the said Committee make a report of their doings to this Court at their sessions in May next or as soon as conveniently they can, that so the Persons whose names are contained in the several Petitions hereafter mentioned, viz: In the Petition of Hopkinton, In the Petition of Salisbury and Amesbury. In the Petition of Cambridge, In the Petition of Bradford and Wewham. In the Petition of Haverhil. In the Petition of Milton and Brookline. In the Petition of Samuel Chamberlain and Jonathan Jewett, and in the Petition of Nathaniel Harris &c. In the Petition of Stephens and Goulden and Others. In the Petition of Morgan Cobb &c. Jonathan Wells &c. Lyscomb and Johnson &c. In the Petition of Isaac Little &c. In the Petition of Jonathan Powers &c. John Whitman Esqr &c. Samuel Haywood &c. Josiah Papet and Others. John Flynt and Others. Jonathan Howard and Others of Bridgewater, that have not heretofore been admitted Grantees or Settlers within the space of seven years last past of or in any former or Other Grant of a

Township or particular Grant on condition of settling; and that shall appear and give security to the value of Forty Pounds to perform the conditions that shall be enjoined by this Court, may by the major part of the Committee be admitted Grantees into one of the said Townships: The Committee to give publick notice of the Time and Place of their meeting to admit the Grantees, which Committee shall be Impowered to Employ Surveyors and chainmen to assist them surveying And laying out said Townships. The Province to bear the charge, and be repaid by the Grantees, who may be admitted, the whole charge they shall advance. Which committee we apprehend ought to be directed and impowered to admit sixty settlers in each Township and take their bonds payable to the committee and their successors in the said trust, to the use of the Province for the performance of the conditions of their Grant Viz.

That each Grantee Build a Dwelling House of Eighteen feet square and seven feet stud at the least, on their respective Home lots, and Fence in and break up for Plowing, or clear and stock with English Grass Five Acres of Land within three years next after their admittance, and cause their respective Lotts to be inhabited: And that the Grantees do within the space of Three years from the time of their being admitted Build and furnish a convenient Meeting House for the Publick Worship of God, and settle a Learned Orthodox Minister: and in case any of the Grantees shall fail Or neglect to perform what is enjoined as above, The Committee shall be obliged to put the Bonds in suit, and take possession of the Lotts and Rights that shall become forfeit, and proceed to grant them to Other Persons that will appear to fulfill the conditions within one year next after the said last mentioned Grant. And if a sufficient number of Petitioners that have no Grant within seven years as aforesaid (viz.) (sixty to each Township) do not appear, Others may be admitted, Provided they have fulfilled the Conditions of their former Grant: The Committee to take care that there be sixty three Home Lotts laid out in as regular, compact and defensible a manner as the Land will allow of. One of which Lotts shall be for the First settled Minister, One for the second settled Minister, and One for the School: to each of which an equal Proportion of Lands shall accrue in all future Divisions.

By order of the Committee Edward Quincy

Fryday
January 16, 1735. }

In the House of Representatives

Ordered, That Joseph Gerrish, Benjamin Prescott, Josiah Willard, Job Ahmy, Esquires, Mr Moses Pierson, and Captain Joseph Gould with such as the Honorable Board shall join, be a Committee to all intents and purposes to effect the Business projected by the Report of the Committee of both houses, to consider the Petitions for Townships, which Pass'd this Day, viz. on the proposed Line between Merrimack and Connecticut River and on both sides of Connecticut River. And, that there be

Granted and allowed to be paid out of the Publick Treasury, after the Rate of Fifteen Shillings per Diem to each one of the Committee for every Day he is in the service in the Woods, and subsistence, and Ten Shillings per Diem for every Day to each one of the said Committee while in the service in admitting Settlers into the said Townships and Subsistence to be Paid as aforesaid.

In Council Read and Concurred; And William Dudley, Samuel Wells, Thomas Berry, Joseph Wilder, and John Chandler Junr, Esquires are joined with the Committee of the House for the Line between Merrimack and Connecticut Rivers &c.

At a Great and General Court Held in Boston, the Twenty Fourth Day of November One Thousand Seven Hundred and thirty-six, the following Vote Passed the Two Houses and was consented to by the Governour. Vis.

Voted, That Mr. Joseph Tisdale of Taunton, be and hereby is Impowered to Assemble the Grantees of the Township Number One on the west side of Connecticut River, adjoining to the Equivalent Land, so called, Giving Timely notice to the said Grantees admitted into the said Township, by the Committee of this Court, and to meet in Taunton where they live, In order to chuse a Moderator and Proprietors Clerk and Committee to allot and Divide their Lands and to dispose of the same and to Pass such Votes and Orders, as by them may be thought conducive for the speedy fulfillment of the conditions of their Grants. And also to agree upon methods for calling of meetings for the future; Provided, none of their votes concerning the Dividing or Disposing of their Lands that shall be Passed while they are under the care and direction of the Committee of this Court shall be of force, before they are allowed of by the said Committee.

The records of these Grantees of township No. One proceed to state as follows :

At a Legall meeting of the Proprietors or Grantees of the Township No. One on the west side of Connecticut River; Near the Great Falls within the Line of Towns, within his Majesties Province of The Massachusetts Bay in New England which said meeting; was warned by Capt. Joseph Tisdale, Pursuant to a vote or order of the Great and General Court of the Province aforesaide and Held at the Schoole House In Taunton January the fourteenth, A. D. 1736 And then Passed The following Votes Viz.—

1st Voted That Deacon Samuel Sumner be Moderator of said Meeting by the Major part of votes, Each One voting according to his Interest which choice was by a great Majority.

2d Voted That James Williams be proprietors Clerk for said Township, and was then sworn to said Trust and then said meeting was ad-

journed to the Dwelling house of Capt. Joseph Tisdale: and Then Immediately met.

3rd Voted That the said Clerk forthwith Purchase at the said Proprietors cost and charge a suitable Book in order to Record there votes and proceedings in the Dividing & settling said Town according to the said Courts Direction.

4th Voted That——Be a Committe to Repair to said Township Granted as aforesaid and Lay Out Sixty Three Home Lotts in manner as the said Grantees shall Direct.

5th Voted That the above said——shall be of the Number of six men and that any four of them shall Be a Qorum

6th Voted that Capt. Joseph Tisdale, Lient John Harvey, Ens. Seth Sumner, Mr Joseph Eddy, Mr Edmond Andrews and Mr Ebenezer Dean be the Committee to Proceed in the sd affair.

7th Voted That the Committee afforesaid be fully impowered to imploy Surveyors & Chain men and two ax men to assist in laying out the Home Lotts in said New Township, upon the proprietors Cost & Charge

8th Voted That the Committee afforesaid Lay out the Sixty three home Lotts according to the Direction of the General Court. Each Lott not to exceed fifty acres; nor less than ten acres to Each Home Lott: And to proportion the same according to Quality that so Each Lott may be of Equal value, as also to appoint a suitable place for the meeting house and Lay a Convenient Road or Roads Through the said Town: and lay the Lotts in the most Defensible manner as may be: also Lay out a Convenient Training field and Burying place Near the Meeting House platt, as also lay out a convenient place (if any there be) Near to or within said home Lotts for a saw mill and a Grist Mill

9th Voted that the interval Lands or so much as the said Committee Think fitt be laid Out into Sixty three Lotts That so each proprietor may have his Lott: and the Same to be allotted and laid out for Quality by the Committee afforesaid: And the said Committee to procure a Plan of the survey of both the home Lotts & interval Land to the said proprietors at a meeting warned for that End, as also number the said Lotts both of upland & interval with the several Boundaries of each Lott set forth in their Said Platt & Return.

10th Voted that the committee afforesaid Lay out the said home Lotts and alot the Interval as aforesaid: fully Compleat and finish the Trust Reposed in them, and make their Return to the said proprietors by the twentieth Day of June Next, in Order the same may be Recorded in the Clerks Office of said propriety: In Order Each One may Draw his Respective Lott: and may take a Due lease to comply with & fulfill the Order of the Great & General Court thereon.

11th Voted that the six Committee aforesaid shall have the sum of Twelve Shillings per Day allowed and Paid to each of them for their time & Expense in Laying said Town Ship and that the said Committee allow and pay at the proprietors cost and charge the sum of fifteen Shillings Per Day to each Surveyor for his time and Expencc in Laying Out said Town Ship and also allow & pay Each chainman and each ax man the sum of Ten Shillings and no more per Day for his time and Expense.

12th Voted that each proprietor pay for one whole Right the sum of Thirty Shillings to the proprietors Clerk; and by him to be paid to Capt. Joseph Tisdale to enable said Committee to go forward and Compleat There Trust, the said thirty shillings to each right to be paid as aforesaid—by the twentieth of Aprill next; and said Clerk to Keep a fair Record of said payments; said sum to be paid by said Tisdale toward the Cost and Charge of the allotment of said Lands.

13th Voted that the Clerk of said propriety for the future shall Be and is fully Impowered upon application to him made by five proprietors or Grantees Desiring a proprietors meeting, and there in sett forth the time, place and Ocation of such meeting. The said Clerk is forth with Ordered to warn a meeting of said proprietors by postting up a notification at the Meeting house in sd Taunton; and therein sett forth the time place & Ocation of such meeting, always allowing fourteen days Notification to said Proprietors

14th Voted That Capt Joseph Tisdale, Deacon Samuel Sumner, with our present Clerk be Desired to Draw the foregoing votes in Order; and that they be a committee fully Impowered to present the same to the Hon^e Committee of the said Court; and Pray for There allowance; and the said Clerk to attest the same a true copy And then the said meeting was adjourned untill the third Day of february next at One of the Clock in the after noon and at sd time to meet at the school house in said Taunton

The fourteen foreGoing votes is a true Copy of the Proceedings of said meeting

Attest James Williams Proprietors Clerk

To The Hon^e Committee of the General Court:—

We the subscribers Committee of the Grantees, Humbly Present the fourteen fore Going Votes to Your Hon. and Pray the same may be allowed; that the same Pass on Record.

Jan. 15, 1736.

Joseph Tisdale {
Samuel Sumner { Committ.
James Williams }

At a Meeting of the Committee of the General Court January 18th 1736 The within Votes of the proprietors of the Grantees of the Town-ship Granted to a number of the Inhabitants of Taunton is allowed and

approved of by us the subscribers, they Erasing the word (Blank) in the fourth & fifth vote, and Erasing the vote for Bying The Record Book the Committee Having provided the same

In the Name & by Order of the Committee

Wm Dudley

This Recorded This fifth Day of March 1736

By me

James Williams Proper, Clerk.

February 3d 1736. The meeting adjourned from the fourteenth of January 1736 This day met according to adjournment and then the sd meeting was adjourned unto the twenty third Day of february instant at one of the Clock in the afternoon: and there to meet in said School House At The Adjournment February 23d 1736 met accordingly

1ly Voted that the foregoing votes with the Hon^{le} Committee of the General Courts allowance, Be Recorded as they Now stand amended

2ly Voted That those persons that are in aRear for former Charge for preferring the petition to the General Court and in viewing the land, now Granted, shall pay there aRear to Capt Joseph Tisdale to make up fifteen shillings to Each Right for the said Charge with what is all Ready Paid: and then the said meeting was Dissolved

James Williams Propr Clerk

At a meeting of the Proprietors of the Grantees of the Township No. 1 on the west side of Connecticutt River Began at Taunton School House the Eleventh Day of April 1737

Legally warned and meet

and came into the following Votes Viz

1st Made choice of Deacon Samuel Sumner Moderator for said meeting and then the said meeting was adjourned to the dwelling house of Capt Joseph Tisdale and there to meet forty minntes after twelve of Clock on this present day—And there meet according to adjournment.

2d Voted that a Rate or assesment be made on said proprietors for the Gathering in the Thirty Shillings to Each Right as voted the fourteenth day of January Last; with the aRear voted february 3d 1736.

3ly Voted that Capt Joseph Tisdale James Williams and Seth Staples be assessors to make such Rates or assessments as are or shall be agreed upon for this present year by said proprietors

4 Voted that Mr Jonathan Padelford Jun be Collector for said propriety the year next ensuing

5 Voted That s'd collector shall have the sum of twelve pence upon the pound for gathering and collecting such assesments as shall be out Standing from and after the first Day of May next; and said assessors are directed to deliver no assesments to said collector until the said first

Day of May; And said assessors are to make an Addition of the sum of twelve pence upon Each pound and so in proportion for a lessor or Greater sum for the payment of the Collector: upon Each Right as shall not be paid by the said first day of May next: To the Treasurer of said propriety: and said Treasurer to Keep a fair Record of all such payments to him made as aforesaid: or to be paid to our Clerk agreeable to the vote of the fourteenth of January Last

6 Voted That James Williams be Treasurer for the ensuing year.

7 Voted That the first Monday of Aprill yearly, and annuall be & shall be a day for making Choice of Officers Necessary for said propriety: and the Clerk is to post up a notification thereof at Taunton meeting house yearly fourteen Days at least before said meeting

8 Voted that the said Committee is forbid the perambulation of the out side Lines of said Township at the time of there a Lottment of the Home Lotts and then the Question was Putt whether the said proprietors will petition the Great and General Court for some addition to there said Township: and then it was voted that said article Be Referred to the next meeting of said propriety: and that the Clerk Ensert this article in the next meeting and in the meantime Lieut Eliphlet Leonard be Desired to make Enquiry in said affair and to procure such coppys of the survey of the Equivelant Lands as shall be necessary from the Plat and Return of the Equivelant Land as may sett the affair in a true Light, and the proprietors to be at the Cost of Copying such Records

9 Voted that the Committee be sworn to the faithfull Discharge of the Trust Reposed in them by the said proprietors in Lotting the home Lotts and Entervail according to the votes of the proprietors: and that the Surveyors and Chainmen and axmen be Like wise sworn to the faithfull Discharge of there Trust

10 Voted that Lieut Morgan Cobb be added to the Committee in the Room and stead of Mr Edward Andrews—Andrews Declaring his non acceptance, and said Cobb to be allowed as a Surveyor and Committee man fifteen Shillings per Day for his time & Expencc and in said meeting said Cobb Declared his acceptance of said choice

11 Voted that the Treasurer shall pay all payments to him made of the thirty Shillings to Each Right to the five Committee or the major part of them taking a Receipt for the same and said Committe to be accountable for the same to the proprietors afforesaid

12 Voted that the assessors, upon Capt Tisdales presenting his account to them of former aRears and they allowing the same shall make there assesment upon Defective persons accordingly

13 Voted that all persons that have paid in thirty shillings with the aRear to Each right to the Treasurer for said propriety s'd assessors are to cross out or Chancell there names before they Deliver there Rate Streak to the Collector

14 Voted that all persons that have any thing Due to them for former services for viewing the Land petitioned for, whose accounts have been formerly allowed by the proprietors as Committee men or agents shall have the same Discounted in there assessment or so far as there proportion is to pay toward said assesment they Giving a Receipt To the Treasurer before said first Day of May that they have Received the said sum of the assesment

and then Came into said meeting the Hon^e Seth Willard Esqr who adminestred an oath to Mr Morgan Cobb, John Harvey, Seth Sumner, Joseph Eddy and Ebenezer Dean to the Discharge of there Trust according to the vote, Jonathan padelford Jur: and Seth Tisdale Chainmen: all which persons Declared there acceptance of there Choice Respectively

and then said meeting was Dissolved

Recorded April 12th 1737

James Williams Proprietors Clerk

The Names of Those Persons that were admitted Grantees or proprietors of The Township No 1 on the west side of Conecticut River whom the Hon Committee of the General Court admitted the Ninteenth Day of November 1736: which s'd persons gave Bonds Respectively for performance of the conditions of said Grant: Viz.

Joseph Tisdale

Joseph Tisdale in the Right of John Crosman

Joseph Tisdale on the Right of Joseph Jones

Joseph Tisdale on the Right of Benjamin Crosman

Joseph Tisdale on the Right of Jeremiah Wittnell

Joseph Tisdale on the Right of Samuel Darby

Joseph Tisdale on the Right of Stephen Wilbore

Samuel Sumner

Samuel Sumner in the Right of Benjamin Willis

Benjamin Ruggles in the Right of Henry Richmond

James Williams

Thomas Clap

Nickols Stephens

Eliphelett Leonard

William Hodges 2d

Dito of

Henry Hodges

Dito of

Frances Liscomb

Dito of

Stephen Wood

Thomas Clap

Samuel Pratt

Seth Staples

John Andrews

Seth Sumner

Seth Sumner in the Right of Isaac Merick

James Leonard

Morgan Cobb 2d

Edmond Andrews

John Harvey	
James Leonard 3d	
Edward Blake	
Josiah Linkon	
Joseph Willis	
Eliakim Walker	
Jonathan Padelford Jun	
Dito	Thomas Linkon 3d
Dito	Samuel Williams
Joseph Barney	
John Smith 2d	
Joseph Wilbore	
Jonathan Barney	
Ebenezer Dean	
James Walker	
Ebenezer Smith	Thomas Gilbert
Joseph Eddy	
James Leonard 2d	
Joseph Tisdale on	John Tisdale
Dito	Joseph Drake
Joseph Tisdale, Jun.,	
in the Right of	Robert Woodward.
James Walker, Jun.,	James Walker.
Joseph Eddy,	Nathaniel Caswell.
Eliphelet Leonard.	William Haskins.
James Leonard,	David Cobb.
Dito	Morgan Cobb.
Ezra Dean.	
Morgan Cobb, 2d,	Simion Cobb.
Ebenezer Dean,	Joseph Richmond.
Ephriam Dean,	
William Ware,	William Thayer.
Samuel Sumner.	Stephen Macomber.
James Williams.	Abram Tisdale.
Joseph Eddy,	William Leonard.
John Harvy,	Stephen Gray.
Ebenezer Cobb,	
Isral Tisdall,	

The List on the other side contains the persons names who ware admitted Grantees in the Township No. 1; on the west side of Connecticut River on thare petition to the General Court and named; also in there said petition or by there order Living in Taunton &c; admitted this 19th of November 1736.

Record April 13th 1737 { Wm. Dudley by Order of the Com- {
by James Williams propr clerk. { mittee for this purpose. }

The Acompt of Capt James Leonard for money,	£	s.	d.
Expended at Boston,	2	18	6
The account of Capt Tisdale for viewing the line of Town 12 Days	06	0	0
and for one Pilott,	1	5	6
The accompt of Mr. Andrews for his travell in s'd affairs	6	0	0
To Mr. Clapp going to Boston	1	16	0
To Capt Tisdale going to Concord	3	3	8
for Deacon Sumner	1	16	4
for Linet Eliphelet Leonard & Mr Joseph Eddy	22	2	0
	<u>44</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>0</u>

This voted and allowed the articles above by The petitioners in a meeting for that purpose.

JOSEPH TISDALE

This recorded May 4th 1737

by James Williams propr Clerk.

Capt Tisdales account of what the proprietors of Taunton New Township have paid of former aRears to him & what is ytt due and from whom

		Paid		Due	
		s	d	s	d
Joseph Tisdale		15			
Dito on the Right of	John Crossman	15			
Dito on	Joseph Jones	15			
Dito on	Benjamin Crossman	15			
Dito on	Jeremiah Wittwell	15			
Dito on	Samuel Darby	15			
Dito on	Stephen Wilbore	15			
Dito on	John Smith	15			
Samuel Sumner		15			
Dito on	Benjamin Willis	15			
Dito on	Stephen Macomber	15			
Mr. Benjamin Ruggles on	Henry Richmond	10		5	
James Williams		6		9	
Dito on	Abraham Tisdale	15			
Mr Thomas Clap	Nicholas Stephens	15			
Dito on	Samuel Pratt	6		9	
Eliphelet Leonard	William Hodges	15			
Dito	Henry Hodges	15			
Dito	Frances Liscomb	15			
Dito	William Haskins	15			
Dito	Stephen Wood	15			

		Paid		Due	
		s	d	s	d
Seth Staples on the Right of John Andrews		15			
Seth Sumner		2	6	12	6
Dito	Isaac Meriek	15			
Capt James Leonard		15			
Dito	Morgan Cobb	15			
Dito	David Cobb	15			
James Leonard 3d		15			
Edward Blake		6	10	8	2
Jonathan Padelford Jur.		15			
Dito	Thomas Linkon 3d	8		7	
Dito	Sammel Williams Junior	11	3	3	9
Dito	Josiah Linkon	15			
Dito	Joseph Willis	15			
Dito on	Eliakim Walker	15			
Joseph Wilbore		15			
Jonathan Barney		15			
Ebenezer Dean		2	6	12	6
Joseph Barney				15	
Ebenezer Dean	Joseph Richmond			15	
James Walker Jur		15			
Dito	James Walker	15			
Ebenezer Smith	Thomas Gilbert	9		6	
Joseph Eddy		15			
Dito	Nathaniel Cogswell	15			
Joseph Eddy	William Leonard	15			
Dito	Edmund Andrews	15			
Joseph Tisdale Jur.	John Tisdale	15			
Dito	Robert Woodward	15			
Dito	Joseph Drake	15			
Ezra Dean		15			
Morgan Cobb 2d		2	6	12	6
Dito	Simion Cobb			15	
Ephraim Dean		1		14	
William Ware	William Thayer	2	6	12	6
John Harvey		1	6	9	6
Dito	Stephen Gary			15	
Ebenezer Cobb		1		14	
Israel Tisdale		15			
James Leonard 2d		2	6	12	

The account of Capt Tisdale our former Clerk of what each man hath paid to yt former arrears and what is yett due from each proprietor Examined by us

Dated May 3d 1737	JAMES LEONARD	} Committee
	E. EZRA DEAN,	
	SAMUEL SUMNER	
Recorded May 6th 1737 by		
James Williams propr Clerk.		

We have also Examined said Tisdales account further and find he hath Rec'd of the proprietors on the account of former arrears:

and have paid out to those that have served the propr	£21=15s=1d
in viewing & Obtaining said Township	21=8=6
and there is still in Capt Tisdales hands	£9=6=7
We also find that Joseph Eddy hath due to Ballance	5=10=—
and to Eliphelet Leonard	7=4=6
To Deacon Sumner	0=9=4

And we find that the aliears which are not yett paid to said Tisdale are as on the other side

£9=10=5

Also we find that Capt Tisdale ought to be allowed by the Treasurer 11s—6d pd by s'd Tisdale for Eliakim Walker. These accounts we have also examined at the same time as within mentioned

Attest

JAMES LEONARD	} Committee
EZRA DEAN	
SAMUEL SUMNER	

At a meeting of the proprietors of the Township No. 1 on the west side of Connectitt River warned and held at the schole house in Taunton on the 20th Day of May 1737 and then came unto the following votes viz

1—Voted that Mr Samuel Sumner be s'd Moderator for s'd meeting

2—Voted that the whole number of the Committee Surveyors & Chainmen & Pilots that shall be employed upon the proprietors Cost in the aLottment shall not exceed the number of Eleven men of which two of them shall be surveyors and employed as Surveyors in said a Lottments.

3—Voted that the whole number of the Committee all Ready chosen Except Leint. Morgan Cobb shall be and are fully impowered and chosen Chain Men; and that Jonathan Padelford Jur all Ready chosen a Chainman be added to the Committee and that each of them shall have the sum of twelve shillings per day for their time & Expense as was voted the Committee on the fourteenth of Jaunary Last

4—Voted that the major part of the Committee that Repair to the a Lottment of said Township and all present at said shall be a Quorum

to Determine The a Lottment & to act in the whole affair as submitted to the Committee the fourteenth of January Last.

5—Voted that James Williams be added to the Committee and also That he be one of the surveyors and that he shall Receive no more for his time than fifteen shillings per Day for his time & Expense, and said Williams Declared his non acceptance of his choice in said meeting.

6—Voted that Decon Samuel Sumner be added to the Committee & be also imployed as a Chain Man in the a Lottment of said Township as allReady voted and that he have for his time and Expense the sum of twelve Shillings Per day and no more.

And then the said meeting was dissolved

Record May 26th 1737

James Williams Propr Clerk.

At a meeting of the proprietors of the township Number one on the west side of the Connecticut River Legally meet at the School house in Taunton on Monday the Eleventh Day of July A. D. 1737 and then Came into the following votes

1—The said proprietors made choice of Mr Thomas Clap Moderator for said meeting by the major part of the votes; each one voting according to his interests

2—Voted That the Platt & Return Presented by the Committee Be accepted and the Return Recorded in said proprietors Book

3—Voted that this meeting be adjourned untill six o'Clock This afternoon; and then meet accordingly.

4—Voted that the sum of Eleven pounds Be Raised upon said proprietors in Due proportion in full Ballance of the account of said Committee & Surveyor and that the assessors be directed to make an assessment for the same.

5—Voted that Mr Thomas Clap the Moderator Draw Each house Lott & intervail Lott for Each Respective Person that have paid his proportion to former charges; or that have satisfied the Committee his just Part of said Cost & Charge.

6—Voted that there be a Committee Chosen to take into Consideration what method will be most proper for said proprietors to take in building a saw mill and a Grist mill and make report at the adjournment of this meeting to said proprietors and in the mean time Receive the proposalls of any Person or Persons that are willing to take said mill or mills to build, and that the Committee shall Consist of the number of five men, and the persons chosen ware Mr. Thomas Clap Capt. Joseph Tisdale, Leint John Harvey, Leint Eliphelett Leonard and Jonathan Barney, and then the said meeting was adjourned unto the first Monday of Sept. next at one of the Clock in the afternoon & there to meet at said School house precisely at s'd hour.

Recorded Sept 3d 1737 James Williams propr Clerk.

September 5th 1737 being the first Tuesday of said month. The meeting of the township No. 1 adjourned from the Eleventh of July last meet according to adjournment. Then said meeting was adjourned to the Dwelling house of Capt Joseph Tisdale and there to meet at Three O'Clock This afternoon: and then said meeting meet accordingly.

The Proprietors agreed and voted that the following persons That have given Bonds to the Committee of the General Court and are admitted settlers in the Township number one on the west side of Cont River, shall be Esteamed and accounted the Original Owners of so many Rights as he hath Given Bonds to settle, and Every Lott that shall be Drawn in the Division of said Township shall be drawn in the names or Rights of the said Original owners: and in order to Distinguish one Right from one another Every Right is Distinguished by Number and every proprietor shall have The Number or Numbers that are affixed to there Respective names.

This is transcribed on the other side with the names of those— who Bought in there Lotts Respectively.

Voted that Mr Thomas Clap Mr Saml Sumner James Williams Esqr. & Edward Blake be a Committee to Recon with the Treasurer, Collector & Committee of this Propriety, and make Report to s'd proprietors at the adjournment of this meeting who is indebted to them and to whom the same is due Respectively. And then said meeting was adjourned untill Monday the 26 Day of Sept Currant at One O'Clock in the afternoon to meet at the schoole house in said Taunton and Also That the Clerk Post up a Notification at the Meeting house, and There in sett forth that the said proprietors are to Bring in There Lotts in Order the same may Be Recorded

Recorded Sept 5th 1737 by James Williams Clerk

At a meeting held by adjournment from the Eleventh of July to the fifth of September, and Continued by adjournment untill Sept 26th meet accordingly: and there the Proprietors agreed and voted that the following That have Given Bond to the Committee of the General Court & are admitted settlers in the Township No. 1 on the west side of the Connecticut River shall be Esteamed & accounted the Originall owners of so many Rights as he hath Given Bond to settle, And Every Lott that shall be drawn in the Division of said Township shall be Drawn in the Names or Rights of the said Original owners, and in order to Distinguish one Right from another Every Right is hereby Distinguished by number: one, two, three &c and every proprietor shall have the number that are affixed to there Respective Names

Right		
Capt Joseph Tisdale	1	Drawed 7 house Lott 53 Intervail Lott
Joseph Tisdale	2	Drawed 22 house Lot 23 Intervail Lott
Dito	3	Drawed 23 house Lott 22 Intervail Lott

	Right.				
		Dito	4	Drawed 36 house	Lott 21 Intervail Lott
		Ditto	5	Drawed 37 house	Lott 20 Intervail Lott
		Ditto	6	Drawed 41 house	Lott 19 Intervail Lott
		Ditto	7	Drawed 42 house	Lott 56 Intervail Lott
		John Smith	8	Drawed 47 house	Lott 55 Intervail Lott
Mr Samuel Sumner	9	Drawed 25 house	Lott 7	Intervail Lott	
		Ditto	10	Drawed 11 house	Lott 24 Intervail Lott
Mr Benjamin Ruggles	11	Drawed 38 house	Lott 31	Intervail Lott	
		James Williams	12	Drawed 31 house	Lott 29 Intervail Lott
		Ditto	13	Drawed 49 house	Lott 49 Intervail Lott
Mr Thomas Clap	14	Drawed 52 house	Lott 27	Intervail Lott	
		Ditto	15	Drawed 33 house	Lott 28 Intervail Lott
Mr Eliphelet Leonard	16	Drawed 16 house	Lott 12	Intervail Lott	
		Ditto	17	Drawed 3 house	Lott 51 Intervail Lott
		Ditto	18	Drawed 53 house	Lott 8 Intervail Lott
		Ditto	19	Drawed 8 house	Lott 4 Intervail Lott
		Ditto	20	Drawed 27 house	Lott 60 Intervail Lott
Seth Staples	21	Drawed 13 house	Lott 37	Intervail Lott	
Ens Seth Sumner	22	Drawed 59 house	Lott 10	Intervail Lott	
		Ditto	23	Drawed 12 house	Lott 9 Intervail Lott
Capt James Leonard	24	Drawed 46 house	Lott 41	Intervail Lott	
Mr Morgan Cobb 2d	25	Drawed 39 house	Lott 47	Intervail Lott	
		Edmond Andrews	26	Drawed 51 house	Lott 5 Intervail Lott
Mr John Harvey	27	Drawed 54 house	Lott 32	Intervail Lott	
		James Leonard 3	28	Drawed 10 house	Lott 22 Intervail Lott
Ens Edward Blake	29	Drawed 58 house	Lott 11	Intervail Lott	
		Joseph Willis	30	Drawed 19 house	Lott 16 Intervail Lott
		Eliakim Walker	31	Drawed 18 house	Lott 43 Intervail Lott
		Josiah Linkon	32	Drawed 35 house	Lott 34 Intervail Lott
Jonathan Padelford Jur	33	Drawed 56 house	Lott 3	Intervail Lott	
		Ditto	34	Drawed 45 house	Lott 59 Intervail Lott
		Ditto	35	Drawed 29 house	Lott 57 Intervail Lott
		Joseph Barney	36	Drawed 63 house	Lott 53 Intervail Lott
		Joseph Wilbore	37	Drawed 30 house	Lott 26 Intervail Lott
		Jonathan Barney	38	Drawed 32 house	Lott 34 Intervail Lott
		Ebenezer Dean	39	Drawed 26 house	Lott 15 Intervail Lott
		James Walker 2d	40	Drawed 34 house	Lott 35 Intervail Lott
		Ebenezer Smith	41	Drawed 60 house	Lott 61 Intervail Lott
		Joseph Eddy	42	Drawed 61 house	Lott 13 Intervail Lott
		James Leonard 2d	43	Drawed 4 house	Lott 46 Intervail Lott
Joseph Tisdale Jur	44	Drawed 1 house	Lott 40	Intervail Lott	
		Ditto	45	Drawed 48 house	Lott 38 Intervail Lott
		Ditto	46	Drawed 49 house	Lott 39 Intervail Lott

Right.

James Walker	2d 47	Drawed 17 house Lott 36 Intervail Lott
Joseph Eddy	48	Drawed 62 house Lott 14 Intervail Lott
Capt James Leonard	49	Drawed 44 house Lott 17 Intervail Lott
Ditto	50	Drawed 6 house Lott 44 Intervail Lott
Ezra Dean	51	Drawed 9 house Lott 30 Intervail Lott
Lint Morgan Cobb	52	Drawed 43 house Lott 48 Intervail Lott
Ebenezer Dean	53	Drawed 20 house Lott 18 Intervail Lott
Ephriam Dean	54	Drawed 5 house Lott 58 Intervail Lott
William Ware	55	Drawed 28 house Lott 6 Intervail Lott
Samuel Sumner	56	Drawed 2 house Lott 50 Intervail Lott
Joseph Eddy	57	Drawed 57 house Lott 2 Intervail Lott
John Harvey	58	Drawed 55 house Lott 33 Intervail Lott
Ebenezer Cobb	59	Drawed 21 house Lott 45 Intervail Lott
Israel Tisdale	60	Drawed 50 house Lott 42 Intervail Lott
1 Ministers Right	61	Drawed 24 house Lott 1 Intervail Lott
2 Ministers	62	Drawed 15 house Lott 62 Intervail Lott
School	63	Drawed 14 house Lott 63 Intervail Lott

And then it was voted that the Clerk of said Proprietors Record the foregoing as it now stands on this Book

Attest James Williams Propr Clerk

And then the Committee appointed the Eleventh of July last made a Report according to Order Relating to That article of Building of the Mills which Report is as followeth viz

We the Subscribers being Chosen a Committe to consider of some proper meethod for the proprietors of the Township Number One on the west side of Connecticutt River to Gett a Saw Mill & a Grist Mill built in said Township & make Report &c

Accordingly we have taken the premises into Serious Consideration Do agree to Report as followeth—That any person or persons that are willing to undertake the building of said mills shall give a valuable bond with sufficient security to the treasurer of said proprietors or to his successors in said Office for the use of said proprietors That he or they will truly & faithfully build a Good Saw Mill upon that brook or stream which the proprietors have aLotted out for the use & benefit of said proprietors at or before the first Day of October anno Domini 1738 and shall saw all sorts of Bords & slit work for the proprietors after the Rate of thirty Shillings per thousand, Each proprietor finding Suitable timber at the mill that wants any sawed into bords or slitt work; and that he or they will also build a Grist Mill upon said Stream within Six Months after there is twenty families Settled in said Township and Grind for the proprietors, taking no more than two quarts out of a bushel; and that he or they will Keep up said Mills in good Order and Repair for the

space of fifteen years next after they are builded, for the service of the proprietors & Other Inhabitants: and if said mills should be Demolished by the French or Indian Enemies within the space of seven years after they are builded, the proprietors to pay thirty pounds for each mill that shall be so Demolished to the undertakers & they then at their own Cost & Charge to build said mills again for said proprietors within one year after a peace is concluded with said Enemies, in case it should so happen that a war with them should Brake out: and for the encouragement of those shall undertake the building of said mills the proprietors shall grant to them there heirs & assigns forever the mill Lott & the stream running through it which is all ready Laid Out and they also to have the mills which they shall build, and they building a mill house upon it of Eighteen feet Square & Seven feet stud shall be accounted to them as a Settlers Lott; also bring too five acres of Land to inglish Grass, and also the undertakers shall have that peace of Land to there heirs & assigns forever that Lyeth on the south east side of the highway that now lies Common, viz that peace of Land between the mill brook & the lower Tear of Lotts, also Each proprietor for each right which he holds shall pay to the undertakers twenty Shillings, one half by the first Day of March Domi 1737 and the other half when the Grist Mill is finished.

September 26th 1737

Thos. Clap by }
Order of ye } Committee

September 26th 1737 Read & accepted and voted that said Report be Recorded and Capt James Leonard Capt Joseph Tisdale Lieut Eliphlet Leonard Jonathan Paddelford Jun appeared in said meeting & Declared that they would undertake & perform the building of said mills agreeable to the Report above said: also voted that said Capt. Leonard Capt. Tisdale Eliphlet Leonard & Jonathan Paddelford shall have & hold the Lands mentioned in said Report to them there heirs & assigns forever as also the sum of money in the old currency paid as above s'd upon giving security as afforesaid

Also voted that there be a Comittee Chosen to Lett out said mills and take bond of the undertakers agreeable to the Report afforesaid and that the Comittee shall Grant to the undertakers by deed of sale all the Lands Reported in there favor for building said mills, and the Comittee then Chosen was Mr Thomas Clap Mr Samuel Sumner & James Williams: also voted that the sum of thirty pounds be Raised by Rate in Due proportion upon the proprietors of said Township according to the Right or Rights each one enjoys, for the first payment for encouragement of building the mills, and that the assors make an assesment for the same in Due proportion at or before the first of December next and committ the same to the Collector: and he to account for it at or before the first day of february next with Treasurer of said Township— and then the meet-

ing was dissolved: and then the moderator Declared the same was Dissolved accordingly

James Williams Proprietors Clerk

Recorded November 19th 1737 by

James Williams Propr Clerk

A Return of a survey Begun on the fourth Day of June 1737 and finished on the tenth of the same month by us the subscribers the Committee Chosen and impowered to Lay out sixty three house Lotts and sixty three intervail Lotts with a mill Lott and a burying place and a meeting house platt, according to Divers votes passed at a Legall meeting warned for that purpose by a number of Inhabitants in the town of Taunton who petitioned The Great & General Court of the province of the Massachusetts Bay in New England for a Township in some of the unappropriated Lands in said province, which petition was answered and a Township Granted to said petitioners on the west side of Connecticut River & joyning thereto called & Known by the Name of No. 1. The bounds of the house Lotts are as followeth. (here follows the survey of the Township with the private mark of each Grantee and also the survey of the training ground and burying place and also a meeting house platt.)

Said work was done by us the subscribers the proprietors Committee Chosen to do said work. The House Lotts that Joyn on the River viz seven tier Lotts There is a highway or landing place of four Rods in width a Long by the River from the bank of said River by Gates or Barrs: & a peace of undivided between the mill brook & the Lower tear of Lotts

July 11th 1737	{ John Harvey	}	
Then This Return	{ Joseph Eddy	}	
Read allowed and accepted	{ Ebenezer Dean	}	} Committee
& voted that the Clerk Record	{ Jonathan Paddelford Jun	}	
the same	{ Morgan Cobb Surveyor	}	

James Williams Propr Clerk

The foregoing Return Recorded

March 4th 1737 by James Williams

Proprietors Clerk

April 3d 1738 In pursuance to a vote of the proprietors of the Township No. 1: on the west side of Connecticut River at there meeting Aprill 11th 1737 it was voted and ordered that the Clerk of said proprietors yearly & annually should warn a meeting of said proprietors fourteen days at Least before the day of said meeting in order to make Choice of Officers Necessary for said propriety: which I have done agreeable to said vote: and said proprietors are according warned to meet at the school house in Taunton on Munday being the third day of

April 1738 by a Notification posted up at the meeting house in Taunton according to order

James Williams proper Clerk

said proprietors being meet according Ly

1—Made Choice of Mr Samuel Sumner Moderator for s'd meeting.

2—James Williams was Chosen Clerk for the year next ensuing for said propriety.

3—Made Choice of Mr Samuel Sumner treasurer for the year next ensuing.

4—Made Choice of Mr Thomas Clap Seth Staples & James Williams to be assessors for the year next ensuing.

Made Choice of Ebenezer Dean Collector for the year next ensuing.

5—Then in said meeting said dean Refused to serve in said Trust & then Joseph Eddy was chosen collector in said Deans Room & Steed, for the next ensuing

6—Voted that said proprietors will make choice of Three men for a Committe to petition the Great & General Court in the name & behalf of said proprietors that they may be enabled by said Court by some act or Law to gather such rates or assesments as have been all Ready made & remain unpaid; as well as those as shall hear after be made & agreed upon by said proprietors for the speedy settelment of the Township No. 1, on the west side of Connecticut River; that so said proprietors may bring forward there settelments & fullfill The conditions of the bonds Given The Committe of the Great & General Court—And then the Committe Chosen was Mr Thomas Clap, Mr Samuel Sumner & James Williams

and then the meeting was dissolved & the Moderator declared The meeting was dissolved accordingly

James Williams *proprietors Clerk*

June 12th 1738 Then Mr Samuel Sumner appeared & was sworn to the office of Treasurer for said proprietors before

James Williams Justice of the Peace

May 28th 1739 At a proprietors meeting warned and held at the Schoole House in Taunton of the proprietors of the Township Number One, on the west side of Connecticutt River To do & act what they shall think proper Touching the several articles following:

1—To Chuse a proprietors Clerk Committee Treasurer assessors Collector &c

2—Whether the proprietors will by way of Rate or otherwise make some allowance or consideration to a number of those that will first Build there Dwelling houses on there house Lotts & be Leading in the fulfilling of the condition of their said Grant:

3 Whether the proprietors will agree to fence their Intervale Lotts or so many of them as s'd proprietors shall think fitt into one or more General field, or fields as also such Other Lotts as butt on said River

1—The Moderator then Chosen was Capt James Leonard

2—James Williams was Chosen proprietors Clerk for said Township

3^{ly} Voted that Lient Morgan Cobb, Ens Edward Blake, & Mr Joseph Eddy be a Committe to take effectual Care that all & each proprietor or Grantee of said Township No 1. that have not paid there proportion to former Rates & taxes Granted and agreed upon, or that shall this present year be Granted & agreed upon by said proprietors for Bringing forward the Settlement of said Township. by pursuing the Law of this province on Delinquent proprietors in such cases made and provided

4^{ly}—Treasurer Chosen for this present year is Mr James Walker Junior

5th—Collector Chosen for this present year is Mr Seth Staples

6^{ly}—the assessors Chosen for said year 1739 ware Lient John Harvey James Williams & Joseph Eddy

7^{ly}—Voted that Messrs Thomas Clap James Williams John Harvey Joseph Eddy & Seth Staples be a Committee to take into consideration what sum or sums will be proper for said proprietors to Raise by way of Rate, or what other encouragements will be proper for said proprietors to make to a certain number of the first settlers as are leading in the settlement of there Grants, and said Committee to make report of there opinion to s'd proprietors what will be best to do thereon, at the adjournment of this meeting and this article is adjourned to that time

8—Voted that said Committee also Take into Consideration what will be best and most convenient for said proprietors to do about fencing their Intervale Lotts into one or more field or fields and such other Lotts as do butt upon the River—and said Committe to make Report at the adjournment of this meeting

and then said meeting was adjourned by vote to Munday the Eleventh Day of June next & there to meet at twelve of the Clock in s'd Day at said schoole house in Taunton and the Moderator Declared s'd meeting was adjourned accordingly

James Williams propr Cler

The proprietors meeting adjourned from the 28th Day of May 1739 to the Eleventh Day of June 1739 then meet according to adjournment & then the said meeting was adjourned by vote from the schoole house in taunton to the Dwelling house of Captn Joseph Tisdale & then to meet immediately & the proprietors Did accordingly meet———and then the Report of the Committee Chosen the 28th of May was Read to sum incouragements to a number of proprietors who should first Repair to s'd town ship & build there house &c——which Report is as followeth viz

The Committee Chosen the 28th of May 1739 to take into consideration what sum or sums of money will be proper for s'd proprietors to Rais by way of Rate; or what other encouragement will be proper for s'd proprietors to make to a certain number of the first settlers: and such others as will be leading in the first settling of there Grants: we have duly considered thereof, are of opinion & do Report as followeth viz

1—That the proprietors of the Township No 1 on the west side of Connecticutt River Rais by way of Rate the sum of four pounds on Each Right in Due proportion on each right according to the number of Rights each one holds & Claims in s'd propriety, which sum amounts to two hundred & forty pounds and y^t ye assessors for this present year make a rate for ye same & s'd Collector Collect & pay in the same to the treasurer of s'd propriety at or before the first day of Aprill 1740—also that s'd proprietors at ye adjournment of there metting in ye Eleventh of June Currant make choice of a Committe to draw out the sum of one hundred & twenty pounds on the fifteenth Day of June 1740 & pay to such a number of s'd proprietors who shall this present year Repair to s'd Township & there on his Respective house Lott build a Dwelling house according to Court act: and by the fifteenth Day of June 1740 fence in & brake up for plowing or Clear & stock with Inglish Grass five acres of Land: That the number of said proprietors that shall so do or cause to be done on his or there house Lott or Lotts in s'd Township & make the same appear: so s'd Committee shall by order from said Committee to said treasnrer Draw out the sum of one hundred & twenty pounds, Each one to Draw in proportion to the number of houses he shall build on his house Lotts (no person to build more than one house on one Lott, & Each Right to clear five acres as afforesaid for Each house he shall so Build in said Township

2ly—That the Remainer half part being one hundred and twenty pounds shall be paid to those that shall actually Inhabit their homes so built Either by themselves or some other Christian subject of our Lord the King for the space of three month between the said fifteenth of June 1740 & the fifteenth of November next after, & make the same appear to s'd Committe, shall Each one Draw his proportion according to the number of house he shall so Cause to be Inhabited at the end of said three months, & said treasurer is Directed upon Receiving an order from said Committee or the major part of them to pay out the same according to Each ones Respective Due: all which is humbly submitted by

In said meeting said Report was Read and a Considerable Debate had thereon: and then the said proprietors by a great majority Came into the following vote thereon

THOMAS CLAP	{	Committee.
JOSEPH EDDY		
JAMES WILLIAMS		

Voted that the report of the Committee Chosen the 28th of May Last past be accepted & that the sum of Sixty pounds be aded to the said two hundred and forty pounds to be paid in Equal halves, agreeable to the first & second articles in said Report——all which was voted in the affirmative—And the said proprietors proceed to make Choice of the Committee above said; And the Committee then Chosen was Liut. Eliphelet Leonard Liut Morgan Cobb Mr Joseph Eddy Liut John Harvey & Ebenezer Dean

and then the Committee Chosen to make report what s'd proprietors should do as to fencing there Intervale & house Lotts next the River into one or more field or fields Reported as followeth; We the subscribers a Committee Chosen by the proprietors of the township number one on the west side of Connecticut River Consider what is proper for said proprietors to do about fencing the lower tier of Lotts & the Intervale Lotts. Do report that the said Lotts be fenced into a General field by those that shall Go up there before the first day of July 1740 & every proprietor that have his Lott or Lotts fenced in shall pay to those yt Do it nine pence a Rod which is submitted by us

Taunton June 8th 1739

THOMAS CLAP
JOSEPH EDDY } Committee
JOHN HARVEY }

This Report Read & accepted and was voted in the affirmative James Williams propr Clerk And then the meeting was by vote Dismised and the Moderator Declared the meeting was Dismised accordingly at this adjournment 42 Rights present which acted in s'd meeting

James Williams propr Clerk

At a Legall meeting of the proprietors of the Township number one on the west side of the Connecticut River warned according to proprietors Order & held at the schoole house in Taunton on Munday the 7th day of Aprill 1740 being the first Munday in s'd month: and after s'd proprietors being meet Legally

1—They made Choice of Capt James Leonard Moderator for said meeting

2—Made Choice of James Williams Esqr Proprietors Clerk

3—Made Choice of Liut John Harvey Treasurer for sd. Proprietors for the next year ensuing

4—The proprietors made Choice of Ens Seth Sumner Ebenezer Dean & Seth Tisdale assessors for this present year

5—Made Choice of Mr Joseph Eddy Collector for this present year and then said proprietors by vote Dismised said meeting and the Moderator Declared y^t said meeting was Dismised accordingly

James Williams proprietors Clerk

Bristol Sc At a proprietors meeting Legally warned and held at the school house in Taunton on the Seventh Day of Aprill 1740: which

said meeting was warned by the proprietors Clerk upon application to him made by five proprietors; and then the proprietors Came into the following votes

1—Said Proprietors made Choice of Liut Morgan Cobb Moderator of said meeting

And then the said proprietors by vote adjourned said meeting to the Dwelling house of Ruth Tisdale and then meet forthwith according to adjournment

2—Voted that Capt James Leonard be an agent in the name & behalf of said proprietors to petition the Great and General Court (if need be) to Grant a further time to said proprietors to fulfill the Conditions of the Grant of said Court for settling the same according to Court act: the time being now elapsed

3—That article mentioned in the application Relating to putting in snit those bonds Given by some proprietors for building a Saw Mill was dismissed by vote

4—Voted that James Williams Esqr be an agent in the name & behalf of said proprietors to petition the General Court Committe to Confirm the votes of said proprietors at there meeting held at Tamnton on the 28th Day of May 1739 and then said meeting was by vote Dismissed and the Moderator Declared said meeting was Dismissed accordingly

James Williams proprietors Clerk

At a proprietors meeting Legally warned and held at the Schoole house in taunton on the Eight Day of July 1740 to act and vote on the several articles set forth in the application for calling said meeting

The Moderator Chosen for said meeting was Ensign Seth Sumner

1—Voted that Messurs Joseph Eddy James Leonard Junior & Seth Tisdale be a committee to take into Consideration what way in (the) Township number one will be proper and beneficial for said proprietors to clear out, by way of Rate, for there conveniency to pass and Repass to & from y^t Saw Mill in said Township and y^t said Committe Report to said proprietors what is Proper to vote thereon and to Report as soon as may be. Passed in the affirmative And then said proprietors by vote adjourned said meeting to y^t Dwelling House of the widow Ruth Tisdale and to meet at Eight O'Clock this present day: and then meet according to adjournment and then said Committe made report to said proprietors there place which is as followeth

July the 8th 1740; we the subscribers who was chosen a committe by the proprietors in the Township No 1; on the west side of Connecticut River to Report to said proprietors what way in said Township proper and necessary to be cleared to pass and Repass to & from the saw mill in said Township; are of opinion y^t the ten Rod highway Be cleared and made passable from the four Rod highway that is between the forty second and forth eighth Lotts south ward to y^t Saw Mill, and so over as

far as can be done with thirty pounds, and that a rate be made on s'd proprietors of thirty pounds and Delivered to a Committe appointed for y^e purpose to receive it and see it laid out accordingly: July 8th 1740

JOSEPH EDDY
JAMES LEONARD 3d { Committe
SETH TISDALE

and after the foregoing Report was Read again voted that the same be accepted

James Williams proprietors Clerk

The Second article mentioned in said application being Read Relating to meeting some Consideration to the first settler at y^e South East Corner of s'd Township or otherwise was by vote dismissed

The voted that this meeting be adjourned unto the first Munday of September next being the first Day of s'd month at one of the Clock in the afternoon and then to meet at the Schole house in s'd Taunton; and the Moderator Declared said meeting was adjourned accordingly

James Williams propr Clerk

Sept 1st 1740 Then the proprietors of the Township Number one on the west side of the Connecticutt River meet according to adjournment; and after a considerable Debate had on the foregoing meeting

Voted that it is thought proper that a greater majority of proprietors be present to act in the affair of said meeting Therefore voted that this meeting be adjourned unto Munday the twenty-second Day of September Currant at one of the Clock in the afternoon; and then to meet at the schoole house in said Taunton

Passed in the affirmative

And the Moderator Declared that said meeting was adjourned accordingly

James Williams Proprietors Clerk

Sept. 22d 1740 The Proprietors of the Township number one on the west side of Connecticutt River meet according to adjournment and there Came into the following vote: Viz Voted that this meeting be adjourned unto the third Munday of November next being the 17th Day of s'd month and then to meet at s'd schoole house in Taunton at one of the Clock in the afternoon and the Moderator Declared said meeting was adjourned accordingly

James Williams propr Clerk

At a proprietors meeting held and Continued by several adjournments from the 8th of July 1740 unto Munday the 17th of November 1740 and there meet at the schoole house afforesaid and then adjourned to the Dwelling house of Mrs. Ruth Tisdale in said taunton at four of ye Clock in the afternoon of s'd Day and there meet accordingly

And then voted that Mr Seth Sumner Liut Eliphelet Leonard and Mr. Jonathan Barney be a Committee to take into consideration and consider what Service have been Done by several Persons who have Done Service on the Respective house Lotts; and how far Each of them have been servisable to the propriety and make Report to the adjournment of this meeting what allowances Each one that has Labored on s'd Township ought to have. provided they forego there former vote of £300 for Incouragement of the first settlers, and also to Report what allowance shall be made to our present Clerk for his service as proprietors Clerk ever since we have been a propriety; voted in the affirmative and then the meeting was adjourned by vote to tuesday ye Second Day of December next and then to meet at s'd Schoole house at one of ye clock in ye afternoon and the Moderator Declared it was adjourned accordingly

James Williams proprietors Clerk

At a proprietors meeting held at the Schoole house in Taunton on Tuesday the second Day of December 1740 being continued by adjournments from the Eight day of July Last past unto this Day and then meet according to adjournment and then the Report of the Committee Chosen the 17th Day of November Last past made Report according to Order as followeth viz

We the subscribers being a Committe Chosen by the proprietors of Township number one & on the 17th Day of November Last to Take into Consideration and Consider what service have been Done by several Persons who have done service on the Respective house Lotts and how far Each of them have been servisable to the proprietors and make Report to the adjournment of said meeting what allowance each one that has Labored on said Township ought to have provided they forego the vote of £300 for Incouragement of the first settlers; as also what allowance shall be made our present Clerk for his service as proprietors Clerk ever since he has served in said office

1—We have duly considered and find a vote of May 29th 1739 that said proprietors did Chuse a Committe who Reported to said proprietors that the sum of two hundred and forty pounds should be Raised by way of Rate on them to Incourage a certain number of proprietors that should be first settlers and leading the settlement of there Grants in said Township and that such number of proprietors as should in the same year 1739 Repair to his Respective house Lott and build a Dwelling house according to Court act and by the fifteenth of June 1740 fence in and brake up for plowing or clear and stock with English Grass five acres of Land; that such member as should so do and make the same appear to a committe should Draw out £120 of the afforesaid £240

2^{ly}—And the Other half of the two hundred and forty pounds being £120 should be paid to those that should actually Inhabit there houses

so built themselves or some other subjects of Our Lord the King for the space of three months between the 15th of June 1740 and the 15th of November the same year &c.

2^d—It appears to your Committe that altho there was a Rate for said sum of three hundred pounds yet no part thereof is Collected by Reason there was no Collector sworn for said year 1739 Therefore your Committe Report as followeth

1—It Doth not appear to us that any person or persons has fulfilled or Complied with the afforesaid vote so as to be Intitled to any part of said three hundred pounds

2^d—Are of the Opinion that the said sum be not Collected nor paid into the treasury of said Township

3—Are of the opinion that those persons that have actually been up and Labored in said Township should have an honourable allowance made to each of them according to there Respective service as followeth

To Mr Richard Ellis who in a Great measure so to us appears built a Dwelling house and broke up five or six acres of Land be paid and allowed by said proprietors for both years service 1739 and 1740 the sum of £45=0=0 Voted.

To be paid Leuit John Harvey for himself and hand in ye year 1739 £10=0=0 voted.

To be paid James Washburn for his service and part of the team £10=0=0 voted.

To be paid Mr Joseph Eddy for himself and one hand and one third part of the team £15=0=0 voted.

To be paid Seth Tisdale for his Labor 1739	£5=0=0	Voted
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Jonathan Harvey ye 2d to be paid	£5=0=0	Voted
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£90=0=0

To be paid Jonathan Thayer for his service in the year 1740 on said Township £10=0=0

This article of Jonathan Thayers was Read and passed in the negative: and upon said proprietors voting the several sums to the several Persons above named they to Declare under there Hands that Each of them Do freely and fully Discharge the proprietors vote of £300 and that our Clerk Record the said Discharge on our proprietors Records And that our present assessors be Directed to make a Rate and assessment on said proprietors in Due proportion for collecting the same and the Collector to Gather in the same and pay it to our Treasurer and he to pay out the same by the twentieth Day January next to the Respective persons to whome it is voted in bills of Either of the Governments of New England

Also we further Report that the sum of ten pounds be Raised and added to said Rate for payment of James Williams Esqr Our present

Clerk for his service as proprietors Clerk ever since we have been a propriety and in full Discharge of all the service he has Done the proprietors in the propriety and y^t the same be aded to said Rate and the treasurer Directed to make payment to him said Williams by the said 20th of January next—all of which is humbly submitted.

December 2d 1740

SETH SUMNER	{ Committee
ELIPHELET LEONARD	
JONATHAN BARNEY	

December 2d 1740—The foregoing Report being Read and Considered voted that the same be accepted and that the Clerk Record the same

Recorded Dec. 3d 1740 by James Williams Proprietors Clerk
James Williams propr Clerk

And whereas at this meeting on the 8th of July 1740 it was in a Committees Report then Chosen that thirty pounds be Raised for clearing a highway from the saw mill to the four Rods highway between the 47 and forty Eight house Lotts in said Township; now it is voted that Mr James Walker Jur, Lint. John Harvey and Mr Seth Staples be Chosen and they to Do and perform as by said Report on Record is Directed, which was voted in the affirmative and then the meeting by vote was Dismissed and the Moderator Declared the same was Dismissed accordly,
James Williams proprietors Clerk.

At a proprietors meeting warned and held at the schoole house in Taunton on Tuesday the Second Day of December 1740: the Moderator then Chosen was Ens Seth Sumner And then the proprietors adjourned said meeting to the Dwelling house of Ruth Tisdale widow; and there forthwith meet according to adjournment, and came into the following vote viz

Voted that Lint Morgan Cobb ye 2d, James Williams Esqr Lint John Harvey, Decon Samuel Sumner and Lint Eliphelet Leonard be a Committee in the Behalf of the proprietors to make the Best Inquiry they can and Inform themselves so as to be abill to Lay before the proprietors at the adjournment of this meeting how the Circumstances of the said Township are as to settlement of Hampshire Line and what the General Courts Committes opinion is thereon to which we have Given bonds for the performance of the Conditions therein Enjoyed: said Committee to be at no Charge to the propriety Voted in the affirmative and then the proprietors by vote adjourned said meeting unto the first Tuesday of January next at one of the Clock in the afternoon and then to meet at the schoole house in said Taunton: and then the Moderator Declared said meeting was adjourned accordingly by

James Williams propr Clerk

At a proprietors meeting held at the Schoole House in Taunton on Tuesday the 6th Day of January 1740 being Continued by adjournment from the second Day of December Last and now meet according to adjournment and then the proprietors by vote adjourned said meeting unto the first Munday of Aprill next and said moderator Declared that said meeting was adjourned accordingly

James Williams propr Clerk

At a proprietors meeting held at the schoole house in taunton on Munday the 6th Day of Aprill 1741: being the first Munday in sd month: for Choice of Clerk treasurer assesors and all Other officers necessary for the proprietors of the said township or propriety and being meet Came into the following Choice of Officers

1—Mr Seth Sumner Chosen Moderator for said meeting

2—James Williams Esqr Chosen Clerk for said propriety for ye year 1741

3—the Collector Chosen was Mr Seth Staples but he Refused in sd meeting to serve and then the proprietors made choice of Mr Joseph Eddy

4—assesors Chosen for sd year 1741 was Mr Seth Sumner Ebenezer Dean and Seth Tisdale the Treasuer chösen for said year 1741 was Lieut John Harvey and then the proprietors by vote Dismissed said meeting & moderator Declared said meeting was dismissed according.

James Williams Propr Clerk

At a proprietors meeting held at the Schoole house in Taunton on Munday the 6th Day of Aprill 1741 being continued by several adjournments from the 2d Day December 1740 and meet according to adjournment. Voted that this meeting be further adjourned unto the second Munday of May next; and then to meet at the Schoole house in taunton at one of the Clock in the afternoon of sd Day and the Moderator Declared ye meeting was adjourned accordingly

James Williams Propr Clerk

At a proprietors meeting held at the Schoole house in taunton on Munday the Eleventh Day of May 1741 being Continued by several adjournments from the Second Day of December Last past and meet according to adjournment and came into the following vote

1—Voted that there be a division of fifty acres of Land to each Proprietor also three fifty acre Lotts: one for the Minister: One for the Ministry: and one for the Schoole and Each Lott to be Laid in proportions for Quantity and Quality and to be surveyed and Laid out agreeable to the Direction said proprietors shall Give to there Committe yt shall be appointed to Lay out the same—It is also voted that Richard Ellis one of ye proprietors of said Township shall have full Liberty to Lay out one

fifty acre Lott at the South East Corner of said Township: he being at the cost of the survey of said Lott; and he to Lay the same in one square body; and said fifty acres to be Deducted out of his Right for one of his Lotts on s'd Division and said Ellis to present a Return of s'd fifty acres to said Proprietors Laid out by a surveyor and Chain men by the first Munday of Aprill next. Provided he actually Repair to said Township and settle on the same this present year and build a Dwelling house on the same Lott: but if he fail of so doing then to be as one of the Other Lotts to be Drawn for ye said proprietors; also provided he Do not lay any part of said fifty acres within thirty Rods of the Line of ye Equivalent Land adjoining to said Township. voted in the affirmative

And then said Proprietors adjourned said meeting by votes unto the Last Munday of July next and there to meet at said schoole house at one of the clock in the afternoon, and the Moderator Declared said meeting was adjourned accordingly

James Williams Propr Cler

To James Williams Esqr Clerk of the Township No 1 on the west side of the Connecticutt River these are to Desire you to warn a proprietors meeting on fryday the 25th of September Instant at one of the clock in the afternoon: in the schoole House in Taunton for the ends and purposes here after mentioned viz

first to Chose a Moderator

2—To Choose three or five or more men to lay out the fifty acre Division all Ready agreed upon

3d—To agree upon a division of the Intervail Land and how many acres shall be to a Right

4—To Impower the above said Committe to Lay out the Intervale Land if the said proprietors Think fitt to to have a Division of it.

5—To agree and vote how much they shall have a day for Laying out the above said Land

6—To vote how much the said proprietors will Give to the first settler or settlers

7—To vote to Impower those men that ware formerly Impowered to sell the Rights in the affore said Township of those men that neglect or Refuse to pay there part of the Charge that have all Ready Risen or shall Rise

8—To see whither the proprietors of s'd Township will Impower the above said Committe to Employ any persons to Clear a path From fort Dummer to the Township number one and in so Doing you will oblige yours to serve

Taunton September the 8th 1741

Sept 9th 1741 Notification
posted up to warn the affore said
meeting at Taunton meeting house
according to Law by me

James Williams propr Cler

{ James Leonard
{ Joseph Eddy
{ John Harvey
{ Jonathan Thayer
{ Jonathan Harvey

Bristol Sc At a proprietors meeting warned and held at the Schoole House in Taunton on fryday the 25th day of September 1741 for the Ends and vies set fort in the warrant Calling said meeting as on Record

Lieut. John Harvey was Chosen Moderator for said meeting and then voted that this meeting be adjourned unto the first fryday of October next being the Second day of said month at two of the Clock in the afternoon. and the Moderator Declared said meeting was adjourned accordingly

James Williams propr Clerk

October 2^d 1741 the proprietors meeting held at the Schoole house in taunton the 25th of September Last being Continued by adjournment to this Day meet according to adjournment voted that Lient John Harvey, Mr Joseph Eddy, James Williams, James Leonard the 3^d and Seth Tisdale or the major part of them be a Committe to take a survey of all the Intervale Land in said Township that adjoynes the Connecticutt River that is not all Ready allotted and Drawn for in the former survey; and to Lay the same into sixty three Lotts and proportion the same for Quality and Quantity that each Lott may be of Equal value, and to make Return of the survey and allotment to said proprietors in a meeting for that purpose with a plan of the said survey———Voted in the affirmative, and then voted that this meeting be adjourned at the time and place when the next Legall meeting shall be held by said proprietors: and then to meet: and the Clerk is Directed to Give notice seasonably that said meeting is adjourned by posting up the same at the publick meeting house in said Taunton: and then the Moderator Declared said meeting was adjourned accordingly

James Williams propr Cler

At a proprietors meeting held at the Schoole House in Taunton the fifth Day of Aprill 1742, being continued by several adjournments from the 25th Day of September A. D. 1741 met according to adjournment and then adjourned said meeting to four o'clock in the afternoon and then met accordingly and then the proprietors adjourned said meeting by vote to the first Munday of August next at one of the Clock in the afternoon, and the moderator Declared said meeting was adjourned accordingly.

James Williams, Proprietors Clerk.

Bristol Sc at a proprietors meeting legally warned and held at the Schoole house in Taunton on Munday the fifth Day of Aprill A. D. 1742 being the first Munday of said mounth: and annall meeting for said proprietors according to there vote Being meet according to warning.

- 1 Capt. James Leonard was chosen moderator for said meeting.
- 2 James Williams was Chosen Clerk for the ensuing year 1742.

3 Voted that Mr. Joseph Eddy be an agent and wait on the Honl Committe to whom the proprietors of our Township Gave Bonds for performance of settlement of said Township according to Court act, and said agent is fully Impowered and Desired to acquaint said Committe of the Difficulty said proprietors Labour under; and has expended Considerable money and Labour on said Township and in Considerable preparation to fulfill the Court act on us enjoyned: yett not with standing said Township of Land (as sd proprietors are Informed) is now fallen into the Government of New Hampshire: which is much Discouraging to said proprietors Settlement and Going forward to fully Compleat there worke on said Township said proprietors humbly Desires the Honl Committe to Inform said proprietors and give them Direction what proper meathod to take in order to have there Rights secured to sd proprietors according to Court act:—said agent to make report to said proprietors at the adjournment of this meeting: and shall have five shillings for his trouble and Expençe in said affair.

Voted in the affirmative and then the proprietors by vote adjourned said meeting unto the second Munday of June next at one of the Clock in the afternoon: and the Moderator Declared said meeting was adjourned accordingly.

James Williams, Proprietors Clerk.

The Record of this last meeting closes the Records under the head of Township No. 1 on the west side of the Connecticut River The call for the next meeting is from the Proprietors of the Township of Westminster in the Province of New Hampshire and was dated July 26, A. D. 1753 and in the Record Book immediately follows the record above given, and therefore leaves a missing link between the two setts of Proprietors, which was probably lost, as nothing appears between April 5, 1742, and July 26, 1753.

APPENDIX CC.

[Page 55.]

The act establishing Taunton as the Shire town of Bristol County passed at the session begun and held at Boston, on the sixth day of November, A. D. 1746, Ch. 15, in these words:

"An act for making the town of Taunton the shire or County town of the County of Bristol, instead of the Town of Bristol, and for removing the books of records, and papers, of the said County of Bristol, that are in the Town of Bristol, to the said Town of Taunton.

Be it enacted by the Governor, Council and House of Representatives,

(Sect. 1.) That from and after the thirteenth day of November, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and forty-six, the town of Taunton shall be and hereby is made and established the county or shire town of the county of Bristol, instead of the town of Bristol, and that the superiour court of judicature, court of assize and general goal delivery, and the court of general sessions of the peace, and inferiour court of common pleas, which by law was heretofore to be held and kept at the said town of Bristol for the said county, shall forever hereafter be held and kept at the said town of Taunton, within and for said county, on such days respectively, from time to time, as are now by law established for said county, and for the same respective ends and purposes, and with the same authority, respectively, as, heretofore, the said courts were held and kept in the town of Bristol; and all causes, suits and actions depending and to have ben heard in the several courts in said town of Bristol, for said county, shall be heard and tr(y)(i)ed at Taunton, by the said courts respectively, on the same days on which they should have been heard and tried at Bristol before the passing of this act.

(Sect. 2.) And all writs, whether original or of execution, informations, presentments, *venires* for jury-men, and all other writings and instruments that by law were returnable to the several courts or offices in Bristol, shall be and hereby are made returnable to the same courts and offices, respectively, in the town of Taunton.

(Sect. 3.) And all the records and papers of the court of general sessions of the peace, inferiour court of common pleas, court of probate of wills and for granting letters of administration, and of the register of deeds, now in the said town of Bristol, shall be forthwith delivered to George Leonard, Esq(r)., Mr. Thomas Foster and John Shephard, Esq(r)., or the major part of them, who shall cause them immediately to be conveyed to the said town of Taunton, and there safely deposited under the care of the same persons as heretofore, or others, as said committee shall judge best, who shall serve in these offices with full power, and shall give the same obligations and be under the like penalties as they or others had or were under heretofore, until this court shall further order, or others shall be duly appointed in their stead.

(Sect. 4.) And the said committee are also directed to demand and receive of the treasurer of said county, now living in the town of Bristol, all money, records and papers to said county belonging, which they are

also directed to remove and deposit at Taunton, in the same manner as is before directed concerning the records and papers to the said courts belonging; and the several clerks, treasurer, register, and all other persons who are possessed of any records, books, papers, money or other things belonging to said county (such person or persons living now in said town of Bristol,) are hereby impowered and required to deliver them forthwith to the said committee.

(Sect. 5.) And the sheriff of the said county is hereby directed to cause all prisoners now in his majestie's goal in the county of Bristol, to be conveyed to said town of Taunton, and there put under safe custody, in some proper place to be kept for that purpose, 'till said county shall provide a proper goal in said town of Taunton, or 'till they shall be delivered by due course of law. (Passed November 13; published November 14.

Mr. James H. Dean, in his valuable sketch of Taunton thus states the action had on the subject.

"The earliest matter receiving attention after Taunton was made the shire town of the county was the providing a county house and jail. The record is as follows:

"At his Majesty's Court of General Sessions of the Peace, begun and held at Taunton within and for the County of Bristol, on the second Tuesday of December, being the ninth day of the said month, A. D. 1746.

Justices present: Seth Williams, Thomas Terry, George Leonard, Timothy Fales, Samuel Willis, Thomas Bowen, Stephen Paine, Silvester Richmond. Jr., Ephraim Leonard, John Foster, Edward Hayward, Samuel Howland, Samuel Leonard, John Godfrey, Samuel White.

Timothy Fales, Esq., chosen Clerk of this Court and Sworn.

Ordered by the Court that the School House in Taunton shall be for the present impressed for a Goal and that Samuel Leonard, John Godfrey, and Samuel White, Esqrs. be a committee to see that said School House be made as secure as may be for the safe custody of all persons that may be committed thereto with the utmost dispatch, and that Seth Williams the second shall take care to secure the two prisoners now in custody and all others that shall be committed in the mean time.

Ordered by the Court that Seth Williams, George Leonard, Samuel Leonard, John Godfrey, and Samuel White, Esqrs. be a committee to look out a suitable place for the standing of a Goal and County house in the Town of Taunton, & know what the land for erecting said houses on may be purchased for and make report of their doings thereon at the adjournment of this Court."

At the adjournment on the second Tuesday of January, 1747, the committee for looking out a suitable place for County house and Goal made their report as followeth to wit: "We the subscribers appointed a

committee as within mentioned to look out a suitable place for the standing of a Goal and County house in the Town of Taunton have pursuant to the within orders looked out a suitable place as we apprehend which is towards the upper end of the old Training Field a little below where they used to dig gravel and is to be sixty foot square which place we look upon to be the most suitable for setting a County house upon provided the Town Proprietors' Committee give a legall conveyance thereof with a suitable and convenient way to pass to and from said place. And also that the most suitable place for setting a Goal and Goal house be on the land of Samuel White and Mr. Semeon Tisdale at a place near the spring (so-called) adjoining to the way that leads from said Tisdale's to Mr. Crossman's grist mill provided the said White and Tisdale give a legal conveyance thereof.

Seth Williams,
George Leonard,
Sam'l. Leonard,
John Godfrey,
Samuel White,
Committee."

Which report was approved of and accepted by the court.

"Ordered by the Court that John Foster, Silvester Richmond, Jr. and John Godfrey Esqrs. be a committee to provide materials and build a County house and Goal and Goal keeper's house with suitable dispatch. The Goal to be thirty foot long and fourteen foot wide two story high and fourteen foot stud, to be studded with sawed stuff of six inches thick to be framed close together with a chimney in the middle suitable for a Goal. The house for prison keeper to be seventeen foot wide and twenty three foot long two story high besides the entry between the Goal and dwelling house and to be fourteen foot stud with a suitable chimney and ceilar."

At an adjournment Jan. 28, 1747, Samuel White was appointed on the committee in place of Silvester Richmond, who was appointed sheriff.

"January 28, 1746-7. Ordered by the Court that George Leonard, Ephraim Leonard and John Foster, Esqrs., be a committee to receive deeds of conveyance from the committee of the Town of Taunton, and proprietors of said Town, of the lands mentioned in the committee's report (as on file) for the use of the County of Bristol."

The following appears in the records of the Court in June, 1647:

"Upon the Court's receiving a subscription of many of the inhabitants of the Town of Taunton, amounting in the whole to the sum of nine hundred twenty two pounds, fifteen shillings, old tenor, from the subscriber's committee, for building a Court house, ordered that the

same shall be accepted, and that the committee appointed by this court shall be joined with the aforesaid committee of the subscribers in building the Court-house as projected by the subscribers, and what further may be subscribed on the land given by the proprietors and inhabitants of the Town of Taunton, and as has been accepted by the Court of General Sessions of the Peace, holden at Taunton, by adjournment in January last."

History of Bristol County—Massachusetts—p. 769

APPENDIX DD.

(Page 56.)

Mittimus to the Keeper of the Goal at Taunton. You are hereby ordered and directed to take unto your Custody Edward Webb, Thomas Newman, Charles Clarke, John Wooden, John Dunster, and William Carthien, prisoners of War, and them safely keep, in Close Confinement, till the further order of the Major part of the Council—Hereof fail not at your Peril.

Signed by fifteen of the Council.

(Monday, October 9th 1775. Date of Meeting.)

Return from the Keeper of the Goal at Taunton Informing the Hon.^{ble} Council of the Escape of three prisoners—Viz Bartholomew Latham a Serjant and Robert Pomeroy a Sailor both taken on Noddles Island & William Smith a Marine taken at the Light House—In Council Read and Ordered to be Entered on the files of Council.

(Wednesday, October 11th 1775. Date of Meeting.)

APPENDIX EE.

(Page 57.)

The Massachusetts Spy of Sept. 1, 1774 contains a letter from Taunton, dated Aug. 25th, in which the writer says:

—"This morning about 200 men met at the Ware Bridge, in this town, and after choosing a moderator, appointed a Committee to warn the towns of Dighton, Swansea, Raynham, Norton, Mansfield, Attleborough and Easton to meet tomorrow, at eight o'clock, when it is

thought two or three thousand men will be assembled, from whence they are to proceed to Freetown to wait on Col. Gilbert, and desire of him not to accept of the office of high Sheriff under the present administration of the new laws, and that if he should, he must abide by the consequences; also to desire Brigadier Ruggles to depart this county immediately.—Such is the spirit of this County; they seem to be quite awake and to have awoke in a passion. It is more dangerous being a tory here, than at Boston, even if no troops were there.”—

APPENDIX FF.

[Page 57.]

BRISTOL COUNTY RESOLVES. Sept., 1774.

At a meeting of the Gentlemen, Delegates from the following towns in the county of Bristol, viz.: Taunton, Dartmouth, Rehoboth, Freetown, Dighton, Swansea, Norton, Mansfield, Raynham, Berkley, and Easton; held at the Court House, in Taunton, on the 28th and 29th days of September, 1774, to consult upon the proper measures to be taken at the present alarming crisis of our public affairs.

Zepheniah Leonard, Esq; chosen Chairman.

After having read the act of parliament for regulating the government of this province, and the resolves of the counties of Suffolk, Middlesex, &c. the following resolutions were unanimously adopted.

Whereas our ancestors, of blessed memory, from a prudent care for themselves, and a tender concern for their descendants, did through a series of unparalled dangers and distresses, purchase a valuable inheritance in this western world, and carefully transmitted the same to us their posterity; and whereas for many years past, we have quietly enjoyed certain rights and privileges, stipulated by charter, and repeatedly confirmed by royal engagements; which rights and privileges are now unjustly invaded by the pretended authority of a British parliament, under pretext that it is inexpedient for us any longer to enjoy them; and as the same persons which found out this inexpediency, will no doubt, in time, discover that it is inexpedient for us to enjoy any rights and even any property at all; we cannot in justice to ourselves and posterity, and in gratitude to our revered ancestors, tamely stand by and suffer everything that is valuable and dear to be wrested from us; but are resolutely determined, at the risque of our fortunes and lives, to defend our natural and compacted rights; and to oppose to our utmost all illegal and unconstitutional measures, which have been or may be hereafter adopted by a

British parliament, or a British ministry. And though we deprecate the evils which are naturally consequent upon a breach of that mutual affection and confidence which has subsisted betwixt Great Britain and her colonies; yet we think it better to suffer those evils than voluntarily submit to perpetual slavery.

We are sensible that the important crisis before us demands the exercise of much wisdom, prudence and fortitude, and we sincerely hope that all our deliberations and actions will be guided by the principles of sound reason, and a hearty desire to promote the true interest of the British empire. Accordingly, we resolve in the following manner, viz.

Resolved, That we fully recognize George the Third, King of Great Britain, &c. as our rightful sovereign, and as allegiance and protection are reciprocal, we are determined faithfully to yield the former as long as we are allowed the enjoyment of the latter.

Resolved, That the late acts of the British parliament, relating to the continent in general, and this province in particular, are contrary to reason, and the spirit of the English constitution, and if complied with, will reduce us to the most abject state of servitude.

Resolved, That all civil officers in this province, considered as holding their respective offices by the tenure specified in a late act of the British parliament, deserve neither obedience nor respect: but we will support all such civil authority that is agreeable to the charter of the province, granted by King William and Queen Mary.

Resolved, That it is our opinion, that the several towns of this county should regulate themselves in all their public proceedings agreeable to the laws of this province.

Resolved, That we will use our utmost endeavors to discountenance and suppress, all mobs, riots and breaches of the peace, and will afford all the protection in our power to the persons and properties of our loyal fellow subjects.

Resolved, That in all things, we will regulate ourselves by the opinion and advice of the continental congress, now sitting at Philadelphia; and as we place great confidence in the abilities of the gentlemen, members of that Congress, we will cheerfully subscribe to their determinations.

Resolved, That our brethren of the town of Boston, who are now suffering under the cruel hand of power in the common cause of America, are justly entitled to all that support and relief which we can, and are now ready to afford them.

Resolved, That whereas our brethren of the county of Suffolk have, by their spirited and noble resolutions, fully made known our sentiments, we therefore think unnecessary for us to be more particular, as we most cheerfully adopt their measures and resolutions.

Voted, That the above proceeding be inserted in the public papers.

Voted, That the committee for the town of Taunton, be impowered to call a meeting of this body, whenever they think it necessary.

Voted, That the thanks of this body be given to the Chairman for his faithful services.

Voted, That this assembly be adjourned and it was accordingly adjourned.

A true copy

DAVID COBB, Clerk.

[Massachusetts Spy, October 6, 1774.]

APPENDIX FF a.

[Page 58.]

The battle of Lexington took place on April 19, 1775. The news reached Taunton in the afternoon or evening of that day. By an arrangement previously made, the Committees of Safety throughout the Province dispatched messengers on horse in every direction; every town within one hundred miles being informed by evening that the war had begun. The news was made known through the town by the firing of guns and other signals so that people in remote sections of a town were soon aware that they were needed. We give below the rolls of the two Taunton companies :

A muster roll of James Williams, Jr's., company of minute men, which marched from Taunton to Roxbury, each one from his respective home, on the 20th day of April, 1775: Captain Jas. Williams, Jun., Lieutenant Josiah King, Ensign Abiel Macomber, Sergeant John Shaw, Sergeant John Hall, Sergeant Abra. Hathaway, Sergeant Dan Briggs, Drummer Eben Sumner, Fifer Eben Pitts, Jr., Privates Thomas Andrews, George Andrews, Jacob Burt, Richard Cobb, Rich'd Caswell, Job Caswell, John Caswell, Ashel Crossman, Job Dean, Nathan Dean, Micah Dean, Abijah Dean, Eben'r Dean 2d, Joseph Eliot, George Eliot, Jr., John Godfrey, Seth Godfrey, Elijah Gushee, Peter Hoskins, Joshua Hall, Reuben Hart, Hezekiah Hall, Wm. Johnson, George King, Job King, Nathan King, Eliab Knap, Atherton Knap, Daniel Lane, Silvester Lin-

kon, James Latham, Benj. Leach, Jona. Macomber, Edw'd Paul, Zach. Padelford, Jas. Padelford, James Presho, Eben'r Robinson 2d, Josiah Robinson 2d, Gideon Shaw, Joseph Shaw, Jr., Job Smith, Jr., James Shaw, Seth Staple, Elibeus Shelly, Ashel Shaw, Shadrack Wilbore, Rich. Williams, Hamaniel Wilbore, Israel Washburn, Jr., Ephraim Wood, Seth Williams, Nath. Woodward, Thomas Williams.

These were all of Taunton, except Elijah Gushee, Joshua Hall, and Hezekiah Hall, all of Raynham, and Daniel Lane, of Norton. They served twelve days, and were paid as follows: Capt. £2 10s. Lieut., £1 16s. 8d. Sergeants, £1 16s. Privates, £1 3s. 9 d. each. Total, £76 4s.

Capt. Robert Crossman's company was also in service twelve days, as follows:

Robert Crossman, Captain, Joshua Wilbore, 1st Lieutenant, Edw. Blake, 2d Lieutenant, Sergeant Elkanah Hoskins, Sergeant Eben Babbitt, Sergeant Josiah Smith, Sergeant Lem. Hathaway, Corporal Rufus Lincon, Corporal Elka. Smith, Corporal Rufus Barney, Corporal Simeon Palmer, Fifer Joseph Wood, James Ball, Henry Brooks, Eben Crossman, Jabez Carver, James Davis, John Dillinham, Daniel Drake, Jona. French, Ephraim Hathaway, Samuel Hoskins, Richard Hunt, Josias Hall, James Hodges, Elkana Hodges, Jona. Ingle, Silvester Jones, Elijah Leonard, Benj. Lincon, Joshua Lincon, Nat. Leonard, Jr., Stephen Long, John Pratt, Amasiah Richmond, John Richmond, John Read, Solomon Smith, James Stacey, Nat. Tower, Benoni Tisdale, George Tisdale, John Turner, Nat. Williams 1st, Nat. Williams 2d, Jona. Williams, James Woodward, Joseph Williams, Benj. Wilbore, Isaac Washburn, Stephen Woodward, Daniel Wetherel, Thomas White, Stephen White, Benj. Jones, Edward White.

We are indebted to Arthur M. Alger Esqr., for the information above given.

APPENDIX GG.

[Page 58.]

The List and Proceedings of this Committee of Inspection and Correspondence is here given in full.

"At a meeting of the inhabitants of the Town of Taunton on Monday, July 3rd, 1775, said town made choice of

George Godfrey, Esq.	Capt. Henry Hodges,
Maj'r. Richard Godfrey,	Lieut. Solomon Dean,
Ensign Ichabod Leonard,	Cap. Simeon Williams,
Lieut. Elisha Banney,	James Williams, Jr.
Lieut Ebenezer Cobb,	Lieut. Wm. Thayer,
Lieut. Benj. Dean, Jr.	Mr. Elijah Lincoln,
Mr. Nicholas Baylies,	Doc. David Cobb,
Benj. Williams, Esq.,	Mr. John Adam,
Col. Geo. Williams,	Mr. Josiah Crocker,
Lieut. Edward Blake,	Robert Luscombe, Esq.,
Mr. John Keen,	

as a Committee of inspection and correspondence for said town and any seven to make a quorum.

The Committee of Inspection, etc., of the town of Taunton met together on Monday, July 10th, 1775, and made choice of James Williams, Jr. for their clerk.

Mr. Nicholas Baylies, Col. Geo. Williams and *Capt. John Read were chosen a Committee to take into their care the effects and estate of Daniel Leonard, Esq., lying in Taunton, who has fled for protection to Boston. Said Committee to improve or let the same to the best advantage and render a true account of the profits arising therefrom to this Committee or any other committee of correspondence of this town that shall be chosen for that purpose.

VOTED—That Geo. Godfrey, Esq., Capt. Simeon Williams and Col. Geo. Williams be a committee to take into their custody the Pork and Grain now in the store of Doc. McKinstry and send the same to the army as soon as may be, and take an account of the same and keep an account of the cost of transportation.

Doc. David Cobb and Capt. Simeon Williams were added to the first mentioned committee to take care of the goods and estate of Daniel Leonard, Esq., and said Committee or the major part of them, to take care of the effects and estate of any other persons who have fled to Boston for protection, and to let or improve the same to the best advantage, and render an account of the profits thereof.

Wednesday, August 2d, 1775.

The Committee met and VOTED—That no future vote or resolve of this Committee shall be good or binding unless such vote or resolve be minuted or recorded by the Clerk.

VOTED—That Mr. Jonathan Cobb be permitted to sail out of Taunton great river, where she is now lying, to any place which is not forbid by the Continental or Prov. Congress.

*His name is probably omitted by mistake on the committee chosen, July 3d.

There was delivered to James Williams Jr., one note from R. Liscombe, Esq. £2.8: one from Robt. Caldwell for the Committee £6.0; Dean & Crocker £2.8, one from Lem. Hathaway £2.8.

The meeting adjourned to Monday next at 4 o'clock in the afternoon.

Monday Aug. 7th, 1775.

The Committee met and adjourned said meeting to Monday, Aug. 14, 1775. Said meeting further adjourned to the 21st instant and from that time to the 23rd of said month.

At a meeting of the Committee of inspection Aug. 23d. 1775, Resolved, that it be earnestly recommended to the inhabitants of this town, that they refrain from killing any Lambs till the further advice of this Committee, or some future Committee of this town: agreeable to a late resolve of the Provincial Congress. The Committee being informed of divers letters from Newport to sundry Merchants and Traders in this town desiring them to collect all the Flax Seed in their power, so that it may be shipp'd, before the 10th of Sep. next, and as such conduct at this time must essentially militate against the spirit of the Association of the Continental Congress,

Therefore, Resolved, that no person in this town be guilty of transporting or exporting any Flax Seed so that it may go off the Continent, and that this resolve be printed in the Providence and Watertown newspapers, and a Copy sent to the Committee of each town in the county of Bristol.

Monday, Aug. 28th, 1775.

The Committee of Correspondence met and Voted that the Clerk set up one or more advertisements in the town respecting non-commissioned officers and soldiers who have absented themselves from the Continental army.

Joseph Dean, being complained of for his late conduct in transacting business for Thomas Paddock of Middleborough, the Committee put off the hearing thereof to Monday next at two o'clock in the afternoon.

Col. Godfrey, Doc. Cobb and James Williams, Jr, were chosen a Committee to write to the Committee of Providence respecting exportation of Flax Seed.

Mr. Ichabod Leonard was desired to caution Jacob Leonard or any other person against carrying any Flax Seed out of this town.

Lieut. William Thayer and Lieut. Cobb were desired to do the same to Henry Burt and others.

Monday, Sep. 4th, 1775.

The Committee then met. A vote was called to see whether Joseph Dean has transgressed in his going to the General Court to transact business for Thomas Paddock. Passed in the negative.

2d A vote was called to see whether he had transgressed in uttering some slanderous expressions respecting the town of Middleborough, and passed in the affirmative.

Thereupon, Voted, that said Joseph make an acknowledgment therefor—which was done in writing before this Committee.

The meeting was then dismissed.

At a meeting of the Committee of Inspection and Correspondence of the Town of Taunton, Dec. 8, 1775—

Whereas, it is of the utmost importance at this time of general danger to use our power for the preservation of peace and unity in every respect; and whereas, of late some uneasiness hath arisen on account of the sale of Rum, Molasses, English Goods, and other merchandise which by the cruelty of our common enemy is very likely to become scarce amongst us—and taking under consideration the recommendation of the Grand Congress respecting the venders of goods and merchandise, we have thought proper to adjourn this meeting to the 18th of Dec. at one o'clock in the afternoon at the dwelling house of Mr. Eliphaz Harlow in Taunton. Then and there to hear all such complaints as shall be exhibited to us touching such venders of goods in said Taunton: and determine thereon, agreeable to the Association of s'd Congress.

Geo. Godfrey, Esq., Mr. Josiah Crocker, Benj. Williams, Esq., Mr. Nicholas Baylies and James Williams, Jr. were appointed to examine the invoices and other papers of said Traders which can inform said Committee of anything respecting purchasing or selling such goods and merchandise.

Dec. 18, 1775.

Met according to adjournment and after the Committee had made a verbal report the meeting was dismissed.

The Committee of Correspondence for the Town of Taunton met on the 2d of Octo. 1775,

Voted, that the money which was given by the inhabitants of this Town towards the support of the poor of the Town of Boston, be now paid into the hands of the Select Men of the Town of Taunton: and that said Select Men apply the same for the support of said Poor who are or may come to Taunton, and that said Select Men keep an account of what they expend.

The Committee of Inspection and Correspondence for the Town of Taunton met on the 4th of March 1776—To consider a complaint made by Isaiah Stephens against Mr. Nicholas Baylies, respecting said Baylies' tendering money in the name of Henry Lawton, etc. and after consider-

ing said complaint and hearing both parties, said Committee were of the opinion that said Baylies had not transgressed against any resolve of Congress or General Court. The Committee then adjourned their meeting to Friday next at one o'clock in the afternoon.

Friday Mch. 8, 1776.

Then met according to adjournment. The Committee having been informed that Nathaniel Bird of Taunton, a shopkeeper in said Town had refused the Continental Bills in pay for his goods; and said Bird being desired to appear before said Committee to answer to the aforesaid charge, refused to attend; and as the Committee are sufficiently convinced from the examination of a number of evidences that said Bird has been repeatedly guilty in refusing paper currency without a very great discount thereon, and sundry instances refused taking it;

Therefore, in compliance with the Resolve of the Continental Congress and of the General Court of this Province: said Committee think it proper to publish said Bird to the world as an enemy to American Freedom, and all persons are forewarned having any trade or intercourse with him as they regard the welfare of this country or the authority of the Continent.

Further, Voted, that James Williams, Jr., Clerk of said Committee send copies to the Printers of Cambridge, Watertown and Providence, for publishing said Bird, and set notifications up in this and the neighboring Towns.

This closes the proceedings of the Committee of Inspection and Correspondence first chosen, July 3, 1775. Another similar Committee was chosen in the spring of 1776, the proceedings of which appear below:

At a meeting of the Inhabitants of the Town of Taunton on Monday the 11th of March 1776, the Town made choice of

Geo. Godfrey, Esq.	Benj. Williams, Esq.
Mr. Nicholas Baylies,	Col. Geo. Williams;
Capt. Henry Hodges,	Doc. David Cobb,
Capt. Simeon Williams,	James Williams, Jr.,
Mr. Elisha Barney,	

to serve as a Committee of Correspondence, Inspection and Safety, for the year ensuing, agreeable to a Resolve of the General Court which passed Feby. 13, 1776. Attest James Williams, T. Clerk.

The above Committee met at the dwelling house of Mr. Eliphaz Harlow in Taunton Monday evening Mch. 11, 1776, and made choice of

James Williams, Jr. for their Clerk, Geo. Godfrey, Esq. for their Chairman and Benjamin Williams, Esq., Chairman in the absence of Esq. Godfrey.

The Committee taking into consideration a complaint to the former Committee of this town against Nathaniel Bird respecting his conduct in refusing paper bills, and the proceeding of said Committee thereon. Therefore, Voted, to continue said meeting for a further hearing to Wednesday next at three o'clock in the afternoon.

Wednesday, Mch. 13, 1776, met and further adjourned said meeting to Monday, Mch. 18th.

Mch. 18, 1776. The Committee met and proceeded as follows, viz: In Committee, Taunton, Mch. 8, 1776, Nathaniel Bird a shopkeeper in this Town being convicted for refusing Paper Currency in his payments, the Committee resolved to publish him to the world agreeable to the order of the Continent, but said Bird soon after applied to the Committee desiring their pardon for his crime and promising reformation for the future. They therefore have stopped all proceedings against him and recommend him for the future to the good opinion of the Continent on his signing the following paper.

By order of the Committee, Attest James Williams, Jr. Clerk.

W h e r e a s, I, the subscriber, a shopkeeper in this Town have been repeatedly guilty in refusing Paper Currency in pay for my goods and as I find that my conduct in so doing has essentially interfered with the resolutions of the Continent and of the General Court of this Province, I therefore in this humble and public manner ask the forgiveness of my country, and promise determinately for the future to abide by and personally support the resolutions of the Congress and General Court of this Province as far as lays in my power.

Taunton Mch. 18, 1776.

N. Bird.

Recorded per James Williams, Jr., Clerk to the Committee

Tuesday Apr. 2, 1776. The Committee met.

Mr. Nicholas Baylies, Capt. Simeon Williams, Col. Geo. Williams, Capt. Henry Hodges, and James Williams, Jr. were chosen a Sub-Committee to take care of the improvement for one year or a shorter time, if they see fit, of the buildings and land or other estate of the several persons who fled to Boston for refuge or of such as are enemies to the Continent—agreeable to a Resolve of the late Provincial Congress—and let the same to such person or persons as will give the most at a Vendue to be held for that purpose.

The meeting adjourned to the first Monday in May next at one o'clock in the afternoon.

In Committee Apl. 22d, 1776.

W h e r e a s several complaints have been made to said Committee respecting the high price which salt is sold for in this Town, in the store of Mr. Job King, and owned by Mr. Henry Bowers of Swanzey, Therefore, Voted, that Mr. Bowers be notified to attend said Committee on Thursday next at two o'clock in the afternoon and give reason, if any he have, for asking such an exorbitant price.

Further Voted, that Cap. Simeon Williams secure said store and see that no more of said salt be taken out till further order of this Committee, and if he cannot obtain the key, to nail the door.

Thursday, Apl. 25, 1776.

The Committee met according to adjournment from the 22nd instant. Mr. Bowers being present the Committee advised him to dispose of his salt after the rate of 4 s. 6 d. per bushel, whereupon he consented to sell fifty bushels and no more at that price. The meeting was then dismissed.

May 6, 1776. Being the first Monday in said month the Committee met according to adjournment from the first Tuesday in April last, and further adjourned said meeting to 1st. Monday in June.

Monday, May 13, 1776. The Committee met and voted that the Subcommittee which were chosen on the 2d. of April last, proceed to lease and let the improvement of lands and buildings which belonged to persons who are deemed enemies to the United American Colonies, agreeable to the several Resolves of Congress and General Court.

The Committee then adjourned their meeting to the last Monday in this month at 3 o'clock in the afternoon.

*The Committee being informed that Alexander McPherson, a prisoner sent this Town from Boston by order of Council, had not behaved as he ought to have done; therefore, ordered that said McPherson be imprisoned till further order.

The Committee of Inspection being met Aug. 19, 1776,—

Resolved, that those persons who have taken any of the prisoners which were delivered to the Committee by the sheriff of the County of Bristol, keep said prisoners which they now have till the 1st. day of Apl. next and provide suitably for them in sickness and health, and keep their clothing in as good repair as it was in at the time when they were distributed, unless said prisoners are called for before that time.

At a Town Meeting held at Taunton on Monday Mch. 17, 1777 said Town made choice of

Capt. Simeon Williams

Capt. John Read,

James Williams, Jr.

Capt. Cornelius White,

Capt. James Leonard

*There may be a leaf gone here in the manuscript.

for a Committee of Correspondence, Inspection and Safety. And at the adjournment of said meeting, viz. on the 14th of April following the Town made choice of the following persons for an addition to said Committee, to wit:

Geo. Godfrey, Esq.,	Capt. Elisha Barney,
Mr. Nicholas Baylies,	Col. Geo. Williams,
Benjamin Williams, Esq.	

Attest: James Williams, Jr., T. Clerk.

The major part of the before mentioned Committee met Apl. 14 1777 and made choice of Geo. Godfrey, Esq. for their Chairman and James Williams, Jr., for Clerk. And made choice of Capt. Simeon Williams, James Williams, Jr., Mr. Apollas Leonard, Capt. Cornelius White and Capt. John Read for to lease and let out the improvement of the Tory lands and buildings (so-called) in said town. Capt. White and Capt. Read are desired to inspect the land belonging to Mr. Laughton and the land belonging to Laughton and Ballou, and likewise a lot of land belonging to Daniel Leonard situated in the South Westerly part of said Town.

Capt. Barney and Mr. Leonard to inspect the Wood Land belonging to said Daniel Leonard and the land lately Mr. Borland's in the northerly part of said Town.

The Meeting then adjourned to Monday Apl. 21, at four o'clock in the afternoon.

Apl. 21, 1777. The Committee met and chose James Williams Jr., Col. Williams and Benj. Williams Esq., a Committee to repair to the land of Mr. Borland in the northerly part of said Taunton and see what quantity of wood has been cut thereon and who cut the same and make report.

Mr. Apollas Leonard, Col. Williams and Capt. Read were chosen to lease out the house and land of Solomon Smith and a lot of land late William McKinstry's, near Streets Bridge, if they find said premises come under the care of the Committee.

Ordered that Munroe a Highland prisoner ordered by the sheriff to the town of Dighton (now in this Town) be committed to Prison and that the Committee of Dighton be acquainted thereof, and Capt. Liscomb is desired to commit him. The meeting adjourned to Friday next at two o'clock in the afternoon.

Friday Apl. 25, 1777. The Committee met. Brig. Godfrey and James Williams Jr. were appointed to draft a petition to the Council of the State of Massts. Bay. for a removal of the Highland Prisoners now in the Town to some other place.

Mr. Isaac Dean is desired to take care of and inspect *Little North Meadow* (so called) that which is not now within fence, and to take the grass or hay that may grow thereon for one year.

The Committee made choice of Mr. John Porter, Capt. Luscombe and Mr. Timothy Foster, to take care and inspect the conduct of the Highland Prisoners now in this Town, and if any of them shall be seen strolling or walking on the Lord's Day, any other way than directly to or from some house of Public Worship in said Town; or out at any unseasonable time of night without leave from the head of the family to which they respectively belong, or give some satisfactory account for their so doing, you or any of you are desired to commit such prisoner or prisoners to Jail, and if any such prisoners belonging to any other town shall be found in this Town, at any time without leave given by some Committee, Sheriff or other creditable person or giving a satisfactory account thereof, you are desired to commit them to said Jail.

Voted that George Godfrey Esq., draft and sign a Petition to the Hon. Geo. Leonard Esq., Judge of Probate &c. for the County of Bristol, and in the behalf of said Committee desire him to appoint an agent or agents for the estate of Danl. Leonard Esq., Solomon Smith and Doe. Wm. McKinstry, they having left the Town of Taunton for more than three months, and each of them leaving an estate of more than twenty pounds value.

May 2, 1777. On the petition of a number of Inhabitants in the westerly part of said Taunton respecting the spreading of the small pox. Voted that a letter be sent to Mr. James Hoar and Capt. Herrick who are suspected to be assisted in carrying on inoculation.

Col. Williams and Mr. Apollas Leonard are desired to apply to Mr. Henry Bowen Jr., for a quantity of Molasses he has now in this Town, for the benefit of the needy inhabitants thereof.

Then adjourned to Monday, May 5th 1777.

Monday May 5, 1777. The Committee then met and voted that Three hogsheads of Molasses out of Ten and in that proportion for a larger or smaller number belonging to Col. Bowers and Mr. Boylston be stopped and not suffered to be removed out of the stores where they are now deposited in Taunton, till further order from the Committee.

On the verbal complaint of Mr. Porter respecting the abuse he received from Mr. McWhorter, after hearing both parties, the Chairman was desired to give Mr. McWhorter a reprimand which was accordingly done.

Thursday May 9th, 1777. The Committee met. It being represented to the Committee that several persons in this Town had signed a paper for protection under Lord How, the Committee thereon examined Mr. Edward Phillips and Mr. Abijah Hodges (two of whom were suspected had signed said paper) both of which persons declared they had never signed any such thing, nor had seen none only what was published in the Newspapers.

May 15. The Committee ordered that Mr. Seth Padelford be recommended as a suitable person for an agent to the estate of Daniel Leonard Esq. and that James Williams Junr. write to the Judge of Probate (in behalf of said Committee) for his appointment.

May 23. Mr. Porter, Capt. Luseombe and others complained of being abused by Joseph Tisdale. Said Tisdale being sent for and examined, confessed that he had spoken unadvisedly and was sorry he had treated them or the Committee with such language.

Then adjourned to Thursday next at 9 o'clock.

June 2, 1777. Ordered by the Committee that Brig. Godfrey write to the Committee of Upton and desire them to search the papers belonging to the Highland Officers which were sent from this Town and if any *enemical* design can be discovered to acquaint this Committee.

Ordered that Joseph Tisdale be notified to settle with Mr. Porter and Capt. Liscombe, relative to his abusing them on the evening of the day of May last.

Said Tisdale being called for appeared and declined making any suitable acknowledgment to said Porter and Liscombe.

The meeting adjourned to Saturday next at 2 o'clock P. M.

Monday, Nov. 17, 1777. Col. Williams, Benj. Williams, Esq., Capt. Read to lease and let to Mr. Baylies the house and land belonging to Mr. Laughton or M. Ballou or both of them, as the Committee see fit, and for such time as they may think proper.

Same day, Voted that the Chairman petition the General Court for liberty for Mr. Adam to cut and cord 150 cords of wood on land in Taunton formerly Mr. Borland's.

In Committee, Feby, 9, 1778. Col. Geo. Williams, Benj. Williams, Esq., and Capt. Simeon Williams were appointed to inspect the cutting and carrying off wood and iron ore on the land late Mr. Borland's in the easterly part of Taunton, the wood not to be sold for less than 8 shillings per cord.

Committee of Inspection, Correspondence and Safety chosen at Taunton, Mch. 23d, 1778.

Brig. Geo. Godfrey,	Mr. Apollas Leonard,
Benj. Williams, Esq.	Capt. James Leonard.
Capt. Simeon Williams,	Capt. Cornelius White,
James Williams, Jr.,	Capt. John Read,
Mr. Nicholas Baylies,	Capt. Henry Hodges,
Capt. Elisha Barney.	

Mch. 31st, 1778. The Committee met. Chose Brig. Godfrey. Chairman, James Williams, Junr., Clerk. Committee and Select Men being

requested to procure a number of Shirts, Shoes and Stockings for the Soldiers agreed to purchase

100 pair of Shoes at 25 is	\$25.
100 " Stockings at 24 is	\$24.
100 Shirts at 30 each,	\$30.

Benj. Williams, Esq., Capt. Simeon Williams and James Williams, Jr., was chosen a Sub-Committee to lease and let out the improvement of Tory Land (so called.) in Taunton. The meeting adjourned to Friday next at 3 o'clock P. M.

Friday Apl. 3, 1778. The Committee met and Voted to act in prosecuting Mr. Robert Crossman for writing and signing a letter directed to Seth Williams at Newport, and adjourned to Tuesday next at 3 o'clock P. M.

Tuesday, Apl. 7, 1778. The Committee met. Mr. Crossman present, was asked the following questions.

Quest. Did you write a letter and direct it to Seth Williams of Newport on or about the 27th day of Mch. last?

Answer. Yes.

Quest. What view had you in writing said letter?

Answer. In hopes to entice him off the Island for he owed me a sum of money.

Quest. Did you ever ask any person to carry s'd letter to R. I.?

Answer. No—nor did I intend to send it, for after I had wrote it I disliked it myself.

Quest. What view had you by enquiring after Gilbert and others.

Answer. Only out of curiosity?

After which the Committee considered the matter and ordered said Crossman not to go out of this Town till the 24th day of April current, and then to appear before the Committee at this place at one o'clock in the afternoon.

Friday Apl. 24 1778. Then met. Mr. Crossman present, was asked if he was willing to take the oath of allegiance to the State. Answered yes. And after being reprimanded for his misconduct relative to the above mentioned letter, was dismissed.

The Committee ordered that the shoes collected for the Soldiers of this Town, be deposited in the house of Benj. Williams Esq., and the Shirts and stockings at Brig. Godfrey's, they to deliver the same to Mr. Durfey who is appointed to receive the same.

Benj. Williams Esq., Capt. Simeon Williams and James Williams, Jr., to lease to said Macomber for one year the land he has within fence lately belonging to John Borland Esq., dec.

APPENDIX HH.

(Page 58.)

The Solemn League and Covenant (as prescribed by the Province Laws, Vol. V, c. 21, p. 479, May 1, 1776) was in these words:

We the Subscribers, Do each of us severally for ourselves, profess testify and declare before GOD and the World, that we verily believe that the War, Resistance and Opposition in which the United American Colonies are now engaged against the Fleets and Armies of Great-Britain, is on the part of said Colonies just and necessary. And we do hereby severally promise, covenant and engage, to and with every Person of this Colony, who has or shall subscribe this Declaration, or another of the same Tenor and Words, that we will not, during the said War, directly or indirectly, in any Ways, aid, abet or assist, any of the Naval or Land Forces of the King of Great-Britain, or any employ'd by him; or supply them with any kind of Provisions, Military or Naval Stores, or hold any Correspondence with, or communicate any Intelligence to any of the Officers, Soldiers or Mariners belonging to the said Army or Navy, or enlist, or procure any others to enlist into the Land or Sea-Service of Great-Britain, or take up or bear Arms against this or either of the United Colonies, or under take to pilot any of the Vessels belonging to the said Navy, or in any other way aid or assist them: But on the contrary, according to our best Power and Abilities, will defend by Arms, the United American Colonies, and every Part thereof, against every hostile Attempt of the Fleets and Armies in the Service of Great-Britain, or any of them, according to the Requirements and Directions of the Laws of this Colony that now are, or may hereafter be provided, for the Regulation of the Militia thereof.

John Godfrey	Abel Burt	James Woodward
John Thayer	Nedabiah Lincoln	Daniel Briggs
Henry Hodges, Jr.	Aaron Pratt	David Stacy
Abiathar Hodges	Ben Crossman	Seth Hodges
James Hodges	Timothy Hodges	Silas Antelly
Jonathan Thayer	Nehemiah Haskins Jr.	Thomas Hodges
Stephen Haskins Jr.	William Haskins 3d.	Morgan Cobb
Luther Haskins	Samuel Haskins	William Hodges
John Holmes	Eli Haskins	Samuel Tower
Nathanael Briggs	William Haskins 2d.	Alexander Smith
Nathanael Briggs 2d.	Richard Cobb	Elisha Woodward
Jacob Burt	James Lincoln	Ichabod Leonard
Abraham Burt	Eb'n. Cobb Jr.	Dan. Wilde
John Hodges	Rnfus Cobb	George Reed
Simeon Cobb	Simeon Cobb	Isaiah Reed

David Burt	Timothy Haskins	Zephaniah Hodges
Dan. Haskins	Pelitiah Estey	Jonathan Barney
Isaac Burt	Samuel Hayward	Jacob Barney
Ebenezer Cobb	Jona. Harvey	Nehemiah Dean
Levi Harlow	Alpheus Haskins	Samuel Gardner
James Coddling	Philip Mason	Benjamin Williams
Aaron Knapp	Samuel Stacey	Jna. Jones
Gideon Hicks	Job Stacey	James Leonard
Moses Knap	Job Stacey Jr.	Zeph: Gary
Edward Knap	George Woodward	Seth Pollard
Abiathar Knap	John Briggs	Joseph Harvey
Seppharim Knap	Ephraim Briggs	Rufus Leonard
James Tisdale	Amos Stacey	Oliver Dean
Daniel Short	James Harvey	Enos Dean
Henry Brant	Ebenezer Willis	George Reed Jr.
Nathanael Dean	John Willis	Levi Torrey
Abel Burt Jr.	Nathan Dean	Benoni Tisdale

Among the "Godfrey Papers," now in the hands of Edgar H. Reed, Esq., may be found copies of the action of the town meetings, as follows :

At a Town Meeting warned & held at Taunton on monday the 12th of April A. D. 1779

Capt. John Read, 2nd, Capt. John Harvey, Messrs. William Holloway, John Porter, Benjamin Dean, Phillip Dean and Benjamin Lincoln ye 2d, was chosen a Committee to hire for sd. town as reasonably as may be; the men for the Continental or State Service that the Town or Several Captins or Commanders of Companies, Shall be Called upon to Raise for ye futer:

and Further Voted that said Committee shall be paid all ye money they shall Engage or pay for the purpose aforesaid, by a Tax to be laid on ye Poles and Estates of said Town, and a Reasonable Sum for said Committee for their Service

A True Copy, attest, James Williams, Junr. T. Clerk.

At a Town Meeting warned & held at Taunton on ye 30th day of July A. D. 1781 & continued by adjournment to ye 10th Day of August following.

1780. Voted that ye sum of Three hundred & Twenty pounds in Lawfull Silver Money be raised by a Tax on ye Poles & Estates of sd Town for ye purpose of procuring 15,111 wt. of Beef which this Town is called on for by the General Court as per their Resolve dated ye 22d day of June last.

The Town then made Choice of Capt. John Read to procure the above Quantity of Beef as Cheap as may be, & Deliver the same seasonably to Col. May or whoever may be appointed to Receive ye same, Sd Read to be accountable for ye Money he Shall Receive,—And ye assessors are requested to make sd Tax as soon as may be, and ye money to be Collected & paid to ye Town Treasurer for ye above purpose.

Attest:—James Williams, T. Clerk.

APPENDIX II.

(Page 59.)

The events referred to took place in the following order:

Taunton's Flag Unfurled, October 1774.

Patrick Henry's Speech, March 23, 1775.

Battle of Lexington, April 19, 1775.

Putnam's departure from Connecticut. April 20, 1775.

Capture of Ticonderoga, May 10, 1775.

Washington took command of the Army, July 3, 1775.

Declaration of Independence, July 4, 1776.

Capt. James Williams' Company, which marched so promptly to Roxbury the next night after the Battle of Lexington, April 19-20, 1775, has been already given.

Another Company was organized in Taunton for Col. Joseph Reed's Regiment, 1775, the year preceding the "Declaration" as follows:

Oliver Soper, Captain; Simeon Cobb, lieutenant; Thomas Williams, ensign; Ephraim Crossman, George Woodward, John Richmond, Rufus Barney, sergeants; Job Haskins, William Williams, Jonathan Barney, corporals; Joel Drake, fifer; Simeon Crossman, drummer; Ephraim Briggs, Prince Caswell, Richard Caswell, James Cobb, Simeon Cobb, James Coggeshall, Robert Davis, Gideon Dean, Asa Bliss, And, Godfrey, Thomas Graves, Jacob Hoskins, Joel Harvey, Elk. Hodges, James Hodges, John Hodges, Samuel Hoskins, Timothy Hoskins, Rufus Harney, Elijah Leonard, Sylvester Leonard, Nedediah Lincoln, Benjamin Leonard, David Lincoln, Ichabor Macomber, Seth Pollard, Nathaniel Potter, Jacob Phillips, Josiah Reed, Seth Richmond, Increase Robinson, Abel Stacey, John Smith, Israel Smith, George Tisdale, Zadoc Thrasher,

Perez Thrasher, Thomas White, Isaac Washburn, Silas Willis, Benjamin Woodward, Nathaniel Woodward, Seth Woodward, Jonathan Williams, Nathan Wetherell, Benjamin Richmond, Benoni Tisdale, privates: Served April 24th, May 2d to August 1st; averaged £4 11s. 6d. Total £323 4s. 4d.

The roll of Capt. Jacob Haskins' Company raised in 1778 for one year was as follows :

Captain, Jacob Haskins of Taunton; Lieutenants, Noah Pratt, Jacob French, Matthias McForman, Jonathan Fletcher; Sergeants, Aaron Turner, John Lawrence, Jessie Ellis, Peter Smith, Benjamin Fuller, Elijah Fuller; Corporals, Jonas Humphrey, Daniel Chickering, Parker Earle, Increase Pond, Samuel Cushing, Daniel Cook; Privates, John Smith, Christopher Smith, Asa Holbrook, Zach. Bimbo, Samuel Williams, Enoch Darling, Jeremiah Crocker, William Fuller, Joseph , Titus Metcalf, Joel Cleveland, Warrick Greene, Luther Bullard, Abraham Crowley, Isaac Daggett, William Horton, Lemuel Herrin, Silas Morse, William Seaver, Ellis Whiting, Mose Daggett, Michael Clark, Benjamin , Ephraim Jackson, Samuel Hammond, Thaddeus Stowell, Oliver Guild, Isaac Brown, Nathaniel Draper, John Dewee.

His subsequent company raised in 1779 to serve from Mar. 13 to April 15th, contained the following names :

Captain, Jacob Haskins of Taunton; Lieutenant, Abiel Macomber; Sergeants, Seth Paull, Nathaniel Snell, Perez Drake, John McSouth, Joshua Staple; Corporals, Nathaniel Dean, Edward Dean, Philip Dean, Isaac Hall; drummer, Abiel Hayward; fifer, Ebenezer Smith; Privates, John Burt, Elijah Briggs, George Darby, Abraham Dean, Zebedee Hackett, Joseph Hall, Solomon McSouth, John Phillips, Abel Pain, David Padelford, Elijah Richmond, Elkanah Smith, Laban Smith, James Williams Jr., Abiel Dean, Nathan Hall, Nehemiah Leonard, Elezer Wilbur, Israel Jones, Zadoc Turner, Elisha Garey, Nathaniel Hall, John Bolton, Peleg Osborn, James Gilmore, John Shaw, Lemuel Briggs.

APPENDIX JJ.

[Page 61.]

One of the receipts of those days reads as follows :

“Taunton, April 2d, 1781. Rec'd. of the Widow Elizabeth Macomber, Administratrix on the estate of Jno. Macomber, late of Taunton “disseased,” by the Hand of Henry Hodges Twenty Two Spanish milled Dollars, also Four Hundred & Fifty paper Dollars in the old Emission in in the Lew of six silver Dollars; also Five Hundred & Twenty Five Dollars in the old Emission in the Lew of seven silver Dollars, which being in full of all accounts,

per Me—Job Godfrey.”

And a charge on the books of one of the traders of the day reads thus:

“John McPherson Dr. to R. Caldwell,

1780,	£	s.
May To 6 weeks' board	313	4
July To sundries for		
liquors,	9	18
Sept. 1, To 6 weeks board		
to this date,	313	4
To Sundries to date	15	
“ 4 glasses liquor	3	12
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	654	18

On the credit side is 3 feet of wood 15¢

1 peck of corn 3£ 15 s.

The full account of the demonstrations in Taunton, by the insurgents in the Shay's rebellion, may be found in a printed eulogy on Gen. Cobb, by the Hon. Francis Baylies, delivered before the Taunton Lyceum in June, 1830.

The transactions at the September term of the Court of Common Pleas were thus reported by Gen. Cobb to the Governor:

TAUNTON, September 13th, 1786.

Sir: I have the honor of informing your Excellency that the Court of Common Pleas and General Sessions of the Peace sett yesterday at the Court House in this town. The detachments of militia from the Brigades of Plymouth and Bristol which had been ordered out agreeably to your Excellency's directions of the 2d inst., and at the request of the sheriff of this county, had arrived at this place previous to the receipt of your Excellency's letter of the 11th directed to Mr. Sheriff Leonard. As the militia were here and in possession of the Court House, and happily in numbers sufficient to support the civil authority in the execution of duty, and as very large numbers of people were assembled, many of whom were in arms, and all determined wickedly to

oppose the authority of the government, it was thought prudent and necessary by the sheriff and court that the troops should continue to protect them in their present session. But as general clamor and discontent has pervaded this part of the commonwealth, and as the court was now convened at the time and place appointed by law, in which the honor and dignity of government was completely supported, they conceived it to be their duty to have some regard to the alarming disturbances of the present day and accordingly adjourned the business of this session to the 2d Tuesday of December next. This measure, I am sure, gives great satisfaction to the friends as well as the enemies of government here, and I hope will meet your Excellency's approbation. The mob shouted "a generous concession on the part of authority," and the militia retired in great order with the thanks of government for their generous firmness on this occasion. I have the honor to be with great esteem and respect, your Excellency's most obedient servant.

DAVID COBB.

His Excellency Governor Bowdoin.

The tradition among the members of the Cobb family, still living, is that on the morning of Sept. 13, 1786, the mob assembled in front of the Court House with guns, clubs, &c., and when noisy and clamorous for the adjournment of the Court, Gen. Cobb addressed them in these words: "Away with your whining, and disperse." Not heeding his admonition Gen. Cobb left the Court House and went to his brother Jonathan's house, where his regimentals were kept, and having put them on, ordered his horse brought to the door, and as he passed out to mount, his brother Jonathan said, "David, what in —— are you going to do with your regimentals?" "I expect trouble," said he, "with that Shay's crowd, and am determined to sit as a Judge, or die as a General." He then sent his wife and children into the cellar for protection from the mob, mounted his horse and rode out to what he expected might be a bloody conflict.

Gen. Cobb's account of the affair at the October term of the Supreme Court may be found in another letter to Gov. Bowdoin, as follows:

TAUNTON, Oct. 30, 1786.

Sir:—As the Hon. Supreme Court returned immediately from this town to Boston, Your Excellency must have been informed of the successful protection that government received here from the militia of this

division. This information with disbanding the troops and other consequent attention will, I hope, pardon my omission of any earlier communication.

On Sunday evening preceding the sitting of the court, I took possession of the court house and the piece of artillery here with a small company of volunteers of this town. On Monday morning this company was greatly increased in number, and in the afternoon of the same day, were reinforced by the two full companies of militia from the faithful town of Raynham and a small company of volunteers from Rehoboth.

Lient.-Col. Orr, with a detachment from the 3rd Regiment of the Plymouth Brigade, arrived in the evening at the meeting house in this town. This body by the active and spirited exertions of the commander came to my assistance much sooner than was expected.

The leaders of the insurgents, during the day, were traversing the county to collect their force and frequently threatening that through slaughter they would possess themselves of the court house this night. This gave me no uneasiness as I was secure of my numbers and knew theirs to be trifling. But during the night and on Tuesday morning a report prevailed that a large number were coming from the county of Worcester to join the disaffected here. As it was possible this report might be true, I thought it prudent to call on three companies of the adjoining militia to re-enforce by Wednesday morning. This day the insurgents collected their force and took up a rendezvous within a mile and a half of this place, but finding their numbers insufficient for an attack they dispersed at sunset with orders to assemble at the same place on the following morning. Their leaders in the course of the night were to ransack all parts of the county so as to collect every possible addition to their force. Their numbers at this time were ninety-eight in arms and forty-three without.

On Wednesday forenoon those companies of militia that had been ordered the preceding day, joined me; these with what were on the ground before made the government troops 375, rank and file.

About 10 o'clock, being informed that the insurgents were on their march, I ordered the following disposition of troops, viz.

Lient.-Colonel Orr with part of his detachment on the right—the two companies from Raynham on the left,—the Field piece with its company of volunteers in the centre,—composed the front line. The remainder of Col. Orr's detachment with the Rehoboth troops and two companies of militia formed the rear line. The other company of militia was posted at the door of the court house. Soon after this order was completed the insurgents came on the Green with military parade, and with more insolence than force formed their line directly in front of mine, and not more than thirty yards distant. Their numbers were one hundred forty-eight in arms, including officers, and thirty-four without

arms. The fear and rage with which they had alarmed the county for some days past, appeared to have vanished, and the sight of government in force made them as peaceable a set of rioters as ever with so much impudence advanced so near their enemy.

They continued in the same situation almost three hours, and after presenting a petition to the Supreme Court and receiving their answer, they retired in the same manner they came on. Their commander wishing me a good night, as he went off the field, and promised to return the next day with petitions that would be more agreeable to the Honorable Court, but before they had marched a mile, he dismissed them from any further service.

Although the insurgents were dispersed yet I conceived it necessary to continue the troops during the morning session of the court, and accordingly they were not discharged until Friday noon.

The behavior of both officers and men during their continuance here, would have done honor to much older troops. They retired from the town without the least injury to persons or property. Some of the militia that were called upon on this occasion, turned out with alacrity and spirit,—but the exertions of the little town of Raynham deserves every praise from government.

These proceedings will, I hope, meet the approbation of your excellency and the Honorable General Assembly. I have the honor to be with great esteem and respect, your excellency's most humble servant,

DAVID COBB.

To His Excellency Governor Bowdoin.

The following extracts from the newspapers of that period, throw some light upon the occurrences at Taunton, alluded to in the Address :

[Mass. Gazette, Oct. 27, 1786,]

Order, on the probability of attempts being made to stop the sitting of the Supreme Judicial Court at Taunton.

On Saturday an order passed appointing a committee of both Houses, to wait on the Governor, to inform him, that information having been given, that there was a degree of probability, that some attempts might be made to prevent the sitting of the Supreme Judicial Court in Taunton on the next Tuesday, although the Legislature entertained full confidence that his Excellency exercise that authority on this occasion, with which the constitution had vested him, yet that they could not forbear expressing their desire, that he would immediately give the most serious attention to the subject.

On Monday, his Excellency sent a message to both Houses, acquainting them of his proceedings upon this subject, which gave rise to an-

other committee of both Houses who were instructed to thank his Excellency for the intelligence he had been pleased to communicate to the Court, respecting the measures he had taken to support the Supreme Judicial Court, at their session in the County of Bristol; and to assure his Excellency, that the General Court, in the earliest part of their session, did bear their faithful testimony against the late outrageous proceedings in several counties within this Commonwealth; and did express their high satisfaction in the measures which his Excellency had taken to suppress the same, and their firm resolution to support the constitutional authority of the government; and at the same time enquire into and redress all real grievances: and did also resolve, that compensation should be made to such officers and soldiers of the militia as appeared in pursuance of his Excellency's order for the purpose above mentioned, and that like compensation should be made for such of the said officers and soldiers as might hereafter be called forth upon similar occasions. And the said committee were further instructed to assure his Excellency, that the General Court would always, on such and other occasions, afford the Supreme Executive, all that aid which should be incumbent on them, in their own department, fully confiding that his Excellency would still persevere in the exercise of such powers as were vested in him by our excellent constitution, for enforcing due obedience to the authority and laws of government, and for preventing any attempts to interrupt the administration of law and justice for the future, upon which the peace and safety of the Commonwealth, in the opinion of the Court, immediately depended. And the committee were further instructed to acquaint his Excellency, that it was the earnest desire of the General Court, that immediate measures might be taken for the support of the Supreme Judicial Court to be holden by law within the county of Middlesex the ensuing week.

[The Centinel, Oct. 28, 1786.]

A gentleman from Taunton acquaints us, that the Supreme Judicial Court opened at that place on Tuesday last, without molestation;—Gen. Cobb, having previously posted near the Court House about 300 militia, for their protection;—That “the mob” (as says the gentleman, the insurgents are called in every place he came through) amounting to about 130 armed with muskets, and about 50 with sticks, assembled on Tuesday, and on Wednesday marched over to the Green near the Court House. Gen. Cobb had his men drawn up to receive them, with a field piece in front, and a *corps de reserve* at a distance in the rear, and might, as he assured our informant, have made the whole body his prisoners: but they not appearing solicitous for coercive measures, were permitted to stay on the Green, during which time, a David Valentine, of Freetown, drew up, signed and presented to the Court, in “behalf of the County,” as he expressed it, a memorial, requesting that all civil actions might be

continued to the next term and several other matters which fully designated his ignorance and folly, but his Honor the Chief Judge, questioning him, on the propriety of his appearing "in behalf of the county," when the county had sent a Grand Jury, and two full Petit Juries to try cases, he thought it advisable to decamp from the Court House and rejoin his party, who on hearing his story, returned to their several homes, lamenting their gullibility, and convinced of the folly of their enterprise.

[Mass. Gazette, Nov. 17, 1786.]

Boston, Nov. 17, 1786.

The following paragraph contains particulars of the transactions at Taunton, during the late sessions of the Supreme Judicial Court, at that place, which we have not yet published.

On Sunday, previous to the sitting of the Supreme Judicial Court at Taunton, Gen. Cobb received information that the mob intended opposition. In consequence of this, the night following, he directed fifteen or twenty men to take possession of the Court House, and secure the field piece. Also, called upon the same militia, who had so effectually supported the Court of Common Pleas, to make their appearance once more on the present occasion. They arrived in season, and consisted of two or three companies from Bridgewater, under the command of Col. Orr; two companies from Raynham—a town celebrated for its unanimous attachment to government, led on by their Captains Hall and Washburn;—a spirited Volunteer company from Rehoboth, headed by Lieutenants Peake and Carpenter;—and a Volunteer Company from Taunton, under Captain Williams. The mob assembled on Tuesday, but under such apprehension, they did not choose to approach nearer than a mile and a half of the scene of action. Pearse, one of their leaders returned in the evening, advising the rest before he withdrew to disperse; telling them he had been deceived relative to the disposition of the county, and if they persisted, it would certainly terminate in disgrace. However, a David Valentine, who pretended to the principal command, had influence enough to prevent this; and sent into every town of the county, and other towns adjacent, for a reinforcement. On Wednesday about two o'clock in the afternoon, they ventured to show themselves on the green, in front of the militia, under the command of Valentine. Their numbers were 144 armed, and about 36 unarmed. The militia at this time were reinforced by a large company from the south of Taunton, under Capt. Townsend, and two companies from Dighton, under Captains Walker and Talbot. The mob appeared to have an inclination to march into the rear of the militia; but the bayonets which were ready to receive them, and charging the field piece in their sight, soon brought them to their senses; and they retreated to a proper distance. They had

foolishly imagined that some of the militia would join them; but instead of that, some of their own party withdrew and went over to the militia. Valentine then asked permission to wait on the Court, which was granted. He then presented a petition, signed only by himself, in behalf of the county of Bristol, that all civil actions might be continued to the next term. He no sooner presented this, than he was seized with a panic, and discovered an inclination to withdraw without an answer. But his Honor, the Chief Justice, called after him, *stop man*, with an authority that occasioned his instant return. He was then reprimanded for his folly and presumption, in such a manner, that he has since confessed *he shrunk into nothing, and seemed to himself dropping through the floor of the Court House, which would have been a relief to him had it taken place.*

He after this joined his party, and sometime in the evening they all dispersed, and were heard of no more. The militia were not dismissed until Friday in the afternoon, when the business of the Court was over. They justly derived to themselves great honor and applause for their order, regularity and firmness. They one and all acted from principle—from a thorough conviction that they were securing the good and happiness of their country;—and held the mob in such detestation, that they solemnly declared, if the national vengeance slumbered on, and did not reach them in a constitutional way, they themselves would execute it, and in that complete and exemplary manner, that very few hereafter in the county of Bristol would be disposed to disturb the common peace, and thus daringly insult the majesty of the people.

[The Centinel, Dec. 23. 1786.]

We have the pleasure of informing our readers, that the spirit of opposition to government, in the county of Bristol, has very much abated—The Court of Sessions set there the 19th inst, without any opposition. The vast quantity of snow on the ground, prevented two of the Justices of the Common Pleas from attending—the other two, who were present, adjourned the Court by Proclamation.

It is a common remark, that the people in that county were never known to be so industrious in agriculture as they have been the last summer—they had a very fine season for everything but cider—their store-houses are consequently well filled—their cider barrels empty. They are now busily engaged in nail making—no less than 300 are said to be daily employed in that business in the town of Taunton, besides nearly as many more in preparing the coal and rods—They in general support their families from week to week by their labor: their earnings in the summer are consequently saved for the payment of their debts or increase of their estates—Would the three western counties engage in some similar employment, they would soon be contented at home, and be happy under the present government—In a country like this, with the constitution and laws of Massachusetts, an honest, industrious people will never be poor, discontented or rebellious.

APPENDIX KK.

[Page 68.]

The manufacturing interests of Taunton, at the beginning of this century appear in the following objections to a bridge being built across Taunton Great River below the Weir bridge, drawn up by Taunton people for the Legislature of 1800-1 :

“First. There are sixteen coasting vessels owned and employed above the place where the said bridge is intended to be built, drawing from six to seven and a half feet of water, ten of which pass and repass to Providence, Bedford, etc., twenty-five times each year at least; the other six pass and repass to and from New York, Philadelphia, Connecticut, New Jersey, etc. at least eight times each a year, freighted wholly with the manufactures of Taunton and the neighboring towns about, and generally bringing back raw materials and grain, making in the whole five hundred and ninety-six times the said vessels will have to pass said bridge in a year, being a damage to the voyages of the smaller vessels of at least twelve shillings, and of the larger vessels of at least twenty-four shillings each time they have to pass said bridge, amounting to four hundred and five pounds four shillings a year.

Secondly. As there are three difficult, rocky and dangerous places to pass above and below the place said bridge is to stand, unless at slack water, by reason of the rapidity of the current, from five to fifteen minutes detention would render it unsafe attempting to pass said places, by which detention they would frequently lose a fair wind, and be detained several days; besides, the said vessels now pass up and down at all times of the night, which they could not do if said bridge is built, to their great damage. There are also frequently vessels passing up and down that are not owned in the river.

Thirdly. That there are at least three millions of bricks made in Taunton a year, nearly all of them transported down said river, which business gives employment to a large number of men and teams, and which must be stopped if there is any additional expense in getting the bricks to market.

Fourthly. That there are manufactured in Taunton and vicinity eight hundred tons of iron-ware at least, the furnaces at which it is made depending in a great measure upon ore freighted up Taunton River, and that there are seven hundred tons of bar-iron slit and rolled in Taunton and made into nails, shovels, etc., giving employment to a large number of men, the greater part of said manufactures being carried down said river, the vessels engaged in the business bringing back corn and provisions to supply the workmen employed, and we believe

that if there is any further obstruction to the navigation of said river the said business will eventually be destroyed.

Fifthly. We believe that a bridge across said river will be of no considerable advantage to the public, as there is no considerable place of business on the river below Taunton, and but very few people cross the ferries, at one of which not a mile below where it is intended to build said bridge, does not bring into the ferryman more than six or seven younds a year, and the other ferry, about two miles below where the said bridge is intended to be built, does not more than pay the expense of boat and tender."

APPENDIX LL.

[Page 71.]

The following tables show the population and valuation of Taunton at various periods, from 1775 to 1889 :

	A. D. Population.	A. D. Valuation.
Colonial Census,	1775— 2,735	1784—£3743-14s.
“ “	1776— 3,259	1791—£5433-5s. 5d.
	{ 1790— 3,804	1801— \$26,069
	{ 1800— 3,860	1811— 29,598
	{ 1810— 3,907	1821— 42,326
U. S. Census,	{ 1820— 4,520	1831— 1,450,323
	{ 1830— 6,042	1841— 2,260,401
	{ 1840— 7,645	1851— 3,701,472
	{ 1850—10,441	1861— 7,937,007
State Census,	1855—13,750	1870—15,002,099
U. S. “	1860—15,376	1880—15,218,848
State “	1865—16,005	1887—17,291,740
U. S. “	1870—18,629	1889—About \$19,000,000, includ-
State “	1875—20,445	ing the property taxed
U. S. “	1880—21,213	by the State.
State “	1885—23,674	
Estimated	1889—25,000 to 30,000	

ERRATA.

Page 39, line four from top, strike out 1 after days, and substitute 1 for 2 in line seven.

Page 39, line thirteen from top, add 2 after the words "might coake him"

Page 70, line eighteen from top, strike out after vastness, the words, "the product of" and in next line insert "our city's" after the word hum.

Page 140, line seven from bottom, read keeps for lets.

Page 233, Appendix A for Walluspaquin read Wattuspaquin.

Page 259, line fourteen from bottom, for "1669" read "1689."

Page 263, line twelve from top, strike out "of" before "other."

Page 287, line two from top, for 1618 read 1681.

Page 324, for John Winthrope read John Winthorpe,

Page 399, line six from top, for Elisha Banney read Elisha Barney.

NOTE BY THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLICATION.

The variation in the spelling of names in different parts of this book may call for a word of explanation. The names of *Pole* and *Hook*, for example, in the 17th century are Poole and Hooke in later times. The same variation appears in many other names.

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